

111th CONGRESS, 1st SESSION
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

**Investigation into Officially Connected Travel of House Members to Attend the Carib
News Foundation Multinational Business Conferences in 2007 and 2008.**

Appendix A

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT

Review No. 09-3698

The Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics, by a vote of no less than four members, on May 29, 2009 adopted the following report and ordered it to be transmitted to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct of the U.S. House of Representatives.

SUBJECT: Delegate Donna Christensen

NATURE OF THE ALLEGED VIOLATION: There is substantial reason to believe that Delegate Donna Christensen's participation in the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten, N.A. from November 6-9, 2008, her acceptance of reimbursement of expenses to attend that conference and the Member Post Travel Disclosure Form she filed violated various provisions of House Rule XXV Section 5(b).

RECOMMENDATION: The Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics recommends that the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct further review the above described allegations concerning Delegate Christensen.

VOTES IN THE AFFIRMATIVE: 6

VOTES IN THE NEGATIVE: 0

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OR STAFF DESIGNATED TO PRESENT THIS REPORT TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE: Leo Wise, Staff Director & Chief Counsel.

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CITATIONS TO LAW

Review No. 09-3698

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OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CITATIONS TO LAW

Review No. 09-3698

On May 29, 2009 the Board adopted the following findings of fact and accompanying citations to law, regulations, rules and standards of conduct (*in italics*). The Board notes that these findings do not constitute a determination that a violation actually occurred.

I. INTRODUCTON

1. Delegate Donna Christensen attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten, N.A., from November 6-9, 2008. Delegate Christensen received funds from a private source to participate in the conference.

A. Summary of Allegations

2. There is substantial reason to believe that Delegate Christensen violated the requirement that she identify the “true, correct and accurate” sponsor of her travel “to the best of her knowledge” on her Member Post Travel Disclosure Form. While forms submitted to her office and the Standards Committee before the conference identified one entity as the sponsor—the Carib News Foundation—once at the conference, Delegate Christensen was presented with indications that other corporations—including Citigroup, IBM, AT&T, Pfizer, Macy’s and Verizon Foundation—were also sponsors. For instance, Delegate Christensen attended a session where her colleagues, in remarks, thanked “the sponsors” after the corporations were identified as such. She also participated in a ribbon cutting ceremony with representatives of the corporate entities. Those indications proved to be true—these corporations were in fact sponsors of Delegate Christensen’s travel according to House travel rules because the corporations had donated funds specifically for the conference (i.e. earmarked funds). Further, events that occurred in 2007 affected the Standards Committee’s ability to determine whether these corporations were sponsors in 2008:
 - a. In 2007, the House of Representatives changed the rules governing travel. Those changes placed limitations on the number of days Members of Congress could participate in events (such as conferences) when their travel was sponsored by an

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended:

entity that employs or retains a lobbyist. The changes affected the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference. In 2007, the Carib News Foundation continued to identify various corporations as sponsors on the conference agenda and on a draft version of the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form prepared for submission to the Standards Committee for approval. However, after interacting with the counsel to the then-Chair of the Standards Committee, and apparently without the knowledge of the staff attorney reviewing the trip, the documents identifying the corporations as "sponsors" were changed and their sponsorship was not disclosed.

- b. The 2007 conduct and attendant misrepresentations appear to have directly influenced what occurred in 2008. When the Carib News Foundation submitted materials to the Standards Committee for their approval of the 2008 conference, the Carib News Foundation took the same approach as they were instructed to take in 2007 and did not disclose the role of the corporate sponsors on the forms they submitted to the Standards Committee.
3. There is substantial reason to believe that Delegate Christensen violated House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C) by accepting trip-related reimbursements from entities that employ or retain lobbyists for participating in an event for more than one day.
4. There is substantial reason to believe that Delegate Christensen violated House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B) by underreporting the value of the travel reimbursements she received to attend the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference.
5. There is substantial reason to believe that the Carib News Foundation's payment of travel expenses for Delegate Christensen and her acceptance of payment violated the Internal Revenue Code. As stated above, Carib News Charities, the name previously held by the 501(c) organization now known as the Carib News Foundation, is listed as a private foundation in the Internal Revenue's cumulative list of charitable organizations, Publication 78. Therefore, the Standards Committee should not have approved the trip because the funds came from a prohibited source.

B. A Note on Culpability

6. These findings fall into four categories: (1) the sponsor or sponsors, as the case appears to be, of the conference; (2) the intervention of the counsel to the former Chair of the Standards Committee in the Standards Committee's review process of the conference in 2007 and how it affected the information before the Standards Committee in 2008; (3) the accuracy of the value of the reimbursement submitted by Delegate Christensen and (4)

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whether, because of its tax status, the Carib News Foundation could lawfully pay for Delegate Christensen's conference-related expenses.

7. While all these topics are relevant, the Board notes that they do not all involve conduct by Delegate Christensen to the same degree.
 - a. As to topic 1, determining the identity of the true sponsor or sponsors implicates the conduct of both Delegate Christensen and the Standards Committee. Delegate Christensen told the OCE she relied on the Standards Committee to make that determination. It is the Board's view that the Member's approach is reasonable to a point. Once Delegate Christensen arrived at the conference, however, she was confronted with information that other corporations were co-sponsors. That information, at least in 2008, does not appear to have been before the Standards Committee when they initially approved the 2008 travel.
 - b. As to topic 2, the intervention of the counsel to the former Chair of the Standards Committee in the Standards Committee's review of the 2007 conference did not involve Delegate Christensen. Nonetheless, it directly bears on whether and to what extent the Standards Committee could determine the true sponsor of the conference in 2008.
 - c. As to topic 3, the accuracy of the information Delegate Christensen provided as to the value of the reimbursement of her conference-related expenses most directly implicates her conduct. The post-travel disclosure form that all Members must file when they accept privately sponsored travel is signed and certified by Members. The form puts the obligation on Members, not staff, not the Standards Committee and not sponsors, to certify that the information on the form is "true, accurate and complete" to the "best of the Member's knowledge." Delegate Christensen saw the documents that showed the true value of her travel. Nonetheless, she certified inaccurate information on the post-travel disclosure form.
 - d. Topic 4, limitations on Carib News Foundation's ability to pay for overseas travel of government officials, does not implicate Delegate Christensen. Nonetheless, the law prohibits such payments. Therefore, the Board feels compelled to include a discussion of this issue in this referral.

C. Jurisdictional Statement

8. The allegations that are the subject of this review concern Delegate Donna Christensen, a Member of the United States House of Representatives from the Virgin Islands. The

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Resolution the United States House of Representatives adopted creating the Office of Congressional Ethics directs that, “[n]o review shall be undertaken...by the board of any alleged violation that occurred before the date of adoption of this resolution.”¹ The House adopted this Resolution on March 11, 2008. Because the conduct under review occurred or relates to actions taken after March 11, 2008, review by the Office of Congressional Ethics is in accordance with the Resolution.

D. Procedural History

9. A preliminary review in this matter commenced on March 6, 2009 following a written request by at least two members of the OCE Board which was made on February 23, 2009.
10. At least three members of the Board voted to initiate a second-phase review in this matter on March 27, 2009. The Board voted to extend the second-phase review by 14 days, as provided for under the Resolution, on April 24, 2009.
11. The second-phase review ended on May 26, 2009.
12. The Board voted to refer the matter to the Standards Committee for further review on May 29, 2009.
13. The OCE requested documents from and interviews with representatives of:
 - (1) Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee’s Congressional office;
 - (2) the Verizon Foundation;
 - (3) Citibank;
 - (4) American Airlines;
 - (5) IBM;
 - (6) Macy’s, Inc;
 - (7) Pfizer;
 - (8) AT&T;

¹ House Resolution 895 of the 110th Congress, Section 1(e).

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- (9) Representative Kilpatrick's Congressional office;
- (10) Representative Payne's Congressional office;
- (11) Representative Rangel's Congressional office;
- (12) Representative Thompson's Congressional office;
- (13) Delegate Christensen's Congressional office;
- (14) The Carib News; and
- (15) The Carib News Foundation

II. Multiple Entities, Including CARIB NEWS (the Newspaper), the Government of St. Maarten and Several Corporations, Sponsored Delegate Christensen's Trip

14. *Under House Rule 25 clause 5(d), Members are required to obtain prior approval of the Standards Committee for trips where the Member's travel expenses will be reimbursed by a private source. The Standards Committee has adopted regulations, pursuant to House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B)² that requires Members to identify the "sponsor(s)," i.e. the party reimbursing travel expenses, for any trip where the payor is a private entity.*
15. There is substantial reason to believe that Delegate Christensen violated the requirement that she identify the "true, correct and accurate" sponsor of her travel "to the best of her knowledge" on her Member Post Travel Disclosure Form. While forms submitted to her and the Standards Committee before the conference identified one sponsor—the Carib News Foundation—once at the conference, Delegate Christensen was presented with indications that other corporations were also sponsors. As will be discussed below, those indications proved to be true—these corporations were in fact sponsors of Delegate Christensen's travel according to House travel rules because these corporations had donated funds specifically for the conference (i.e. earmarked funds).

A. Delegate Christensen's Knowledge of The Involvement of These Corporations in the Conference

16. On her Member Post-Travel Disclosure Form, Delegate Christensen listed Carib News Foundation as the only sponsor of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business

² House Rule 25(5)(h)(i)(1)(B) directs the Standards Committee to establish, "regulations describing the information it will require individuals subject to this clause to submit to the committee in order to obtain the prior approval of the committee for any travel covered by this clause . . ." On February 20, 2007, the Committee issued guidelines and regulations concerning the travel restrictions and requirements.

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Conference in St. Maarten, N.A. (hereafter “the trip” or “conference”³) in December 2008.⁴

**U.S. House of Representatives
110th Congress**

**MEMBER / OFFICER
POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM**

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties. You need not disclose government-funded or political travel on this form, or travel that is unrelated to official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report all privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual Financial Disclosure Statement. In accordance with clause 5 of House Rule 25, complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, E-106 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed. The Clerk is to make these forms available to the public as soon as possible after they are received.

1. Name of Traveler: Donna M. Christensen

2. a. Name of Accompanying Family Member (if any): None

b. Relationship to Member/Officer: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____

3. a. Date of Departure and Date of Return: 11/6 to 11/8

b. Dates at personal expense (if any): None

4. Itinerary (cities of departure – destination – return): St. Croix - St. Maarten - St. Thomas

5. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): Carib News Foundation

17. Delegate Christensen certified that this information was “true, correct and complete” to the “best of [her] knowledge.”⁵

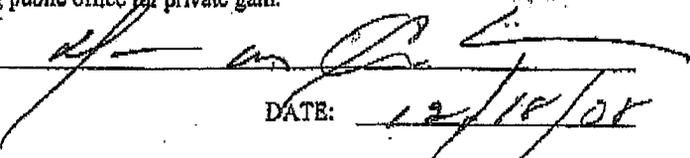
³ The “Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form” asks the filer at question 5, “Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip).” This in turn raises the question is a conference a “trip” or is a trip limited to the travel expenses associated with attending the trip, e.g., transportation, lodging and meal expenses? The House Ethics manual and the relevant forms use the terms “travel” and “trip” interchangeably. For example, the relevant form is called a Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form” (emphasis added). The introductory paragraph on the form provides, “[t]his form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties” (emphasis added). However, question 9 on the form asks the filer to detail, “TRIP EXPENSES” and uses as an example, “registration fees.” Registration fees are not “travel” expenses unless one defines travel (or a trip) to include participating in a conference. The Board uses the term “trip” to include the conference. The Board also notes that the Standards Committee treated the conference as the “trip” in its letter of October 21, 2008 pre-approving Delegate Christensen’s trip.

⁴ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Delegate Donna M. Christensen (Dec. 22, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-3698 0002).

⁵ *Id.* at 09-3698 0003

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I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER:  DATE: 12/16/08

18. Prior to the conference, Karl Rodney, the CEO of the Carib News Foundation, submitted a Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form to Congressman Thompson, which he in turn submitted to the Standards Committee that identified the Carib News Foundation as the sponsor of the trip.⁶

**U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct**

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

19. Later, on that same form, Mr. Rodney represented that "the trip sponsor(s) [had] not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip."⁷

15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):

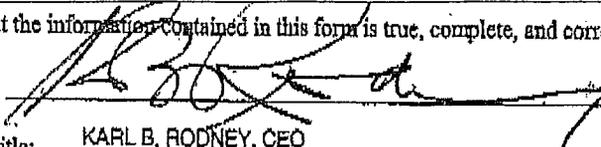
⁶ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form signed by Karl A. Rodney (Oct. 3, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-3698 0005).

⁷ *Id.* at 09-3698 0006.

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20. Rodney also certified that the information was "true, complete, and correct."⁸

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

21. Prior to the conference, the Standards Committee approved the reimbursement of Delegate Christensen's expenses by the Carib News Foundation.⁹

U.S. House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT
Washington, DC 20515

October 16, 2008

The Honorable Donna Christensen
U.S. House of Representatives
1510 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct hereby approves your proposed trip for you and your spouse to St. Maarten, N.A. scheduled for November 6 to 8, 2008 sponsored by the Carib News Foundation.

22. At the conference, several corporations, including Citibank, IBM, AT&T, and others, were identified as "sponsors."¹⁰

23. On November 7, 2008, the conference's organizer, Karl Rodney, began the first morning program by thanking Citigroup, Pfizer, Macy's, IBM, AT&T, the Verizon Foundation and American Airlines, as well as their executives by name, who were present.¹¹ This morning session was recorded by an individual attending the conference and the

⁸ Exhibit 1 at 09-3698 0007

⁹ Letter from the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct to Delegate Donna Christensen (Oct. 16, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-3698 0004).

¹⁰ Photographs taken at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (Exhibit 5 at Exhibit 1 at 09-3698 0070-0078) (The Board notes that the source of this information may have a bias, interest, or motive in this matter.).

¹¹ Transcript of Recording of November 7, 2008 AM Session of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (Exhibit 3 at 09-3698 0037- 09-3698 0039) (The Board notes that the source of this information may have a bias, interest, or motive in this matter.).

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recording was subsequently transcribed. The OCE obtained a copy of the transcript. Mr. Rodney described AT&T as “support[ing] the Conference all 13 years” (this was the thirteenth annual conference).¹²

24. Michael Flanigan, an executive from Citibank, spoke immediately after Mr. Rodney and described Citibank as the “lead sponsor of the premier event.”¹³

25. Following Mr. Flanigan’s remarks, and the remarks of several other speakers, Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick spoke. At the end of her remarks she stated, “[a]nd to the sponsors, by the way, all of you, we couldn’t do this, be with you, help Karl if you weren’t here with us so we say thank you very much, you are so important. To all of the sponsors, thank you very much.”¹⁴

26. In an interview with the OCE, Delegate Christensen confirmed she attended this session of the conference.¹⁵

27. In addition to these comments, signs for the conference displayed these corporations’ logos, including signs hung behind the speaker’s podium where the individuals spoke.¹⁶

¹² *Id.* at 09-3698 0037.

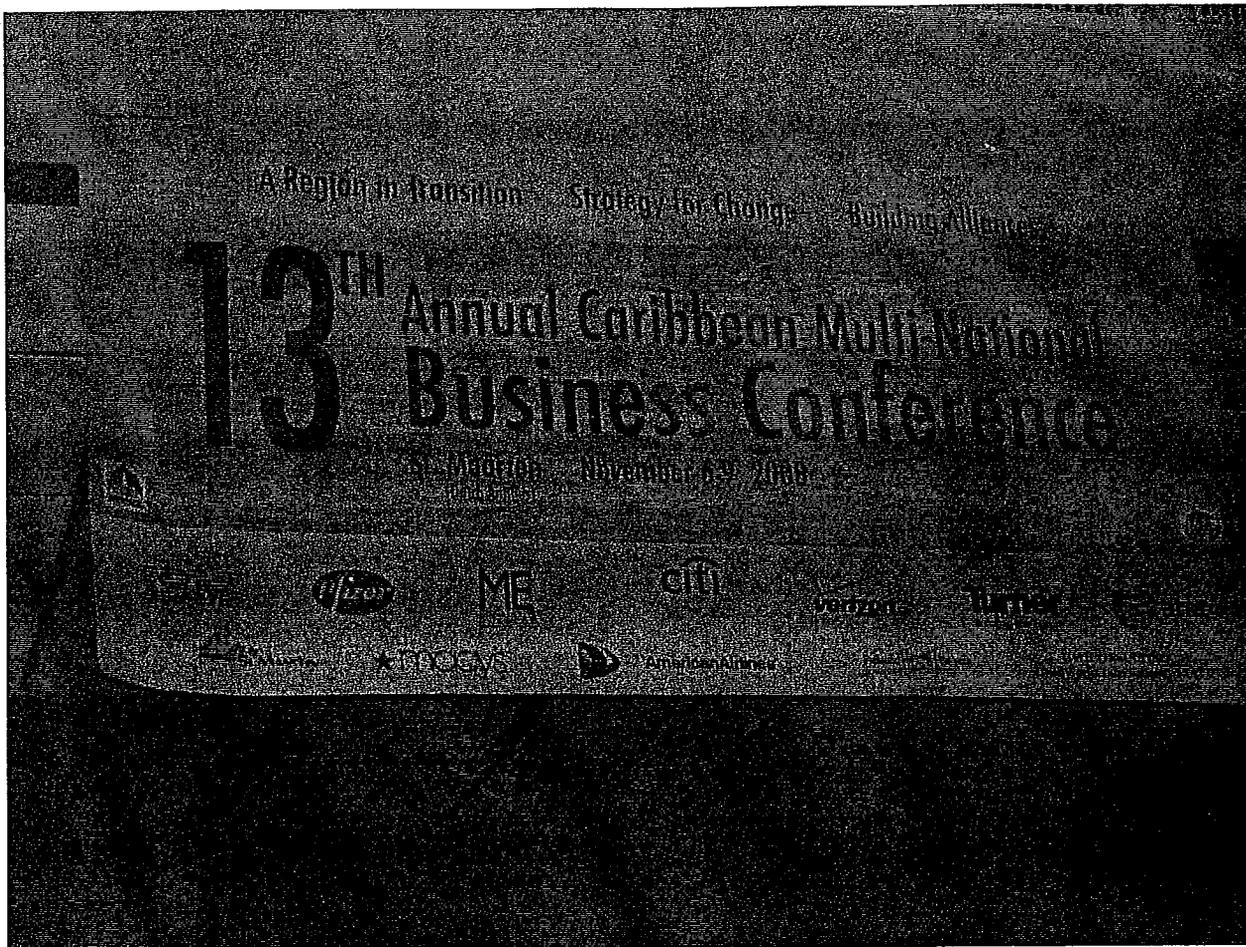
¹³ *Id.* at 09-3698 0039.

¹⁴ *Id.* at 09-3698 0054.

¹⁵ Memorandum of Interview of Delegate Donna Christensen (May 4, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-3698 0034).

¹⁶ Photographs taken at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (Exhibit 5 at 09-3698 0070).

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28. In her interview, Delegate Christensen stated when she arrived at the conference on Thursday she recalled seeing the banner and that a similar banner hung in all the conference rooms.¹⁷

29. After attending the morning session, Delegate Christensen confirmed that she participated in a “ribbon cutting” ceremony in which she and representatives from these corporations and the Leader of Government of St. Maarten, Commissioner Sarah Wescott-Williams stood for photographs. She is the individual partially photographed on the far right of the picture below.¹⁸

¹⁷ Memorandum of Interview of Delegate Donna Christensen (May 4, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-3698 0033).

¹⁸ Photographs taken at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (Exhibit 5 at 09-3698 0071).

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30. In an interview with the OCE, Delegate Christensen stated that she relied on the entity that invited her to the conference, the Carib News Foundation, to identify the sponsor of her trip and, further, that she relied on the Standards Committee, who pre-approved her trip, to determine if that information was accurate.¹⁹ As a result, Delegate Christensen told the OCE that the involvement of these corporations in the conference did not raise questions in her mind about whether the Carib News Foundation was the sole sponsor of the conference.²⁰ However, Delegate Christensen did acknowledge that she was aware that the corporate entities identified had some financial role in the conference.²¹ She did not know if they gave directly to the Foundation or to the conference. She also stated that the Government of St. Marten paid for a reception, which included food, that she attended.

¹⁹ Memorandum of Interview of Delegate Donna Christensen (May 4, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-3698 0034).

²⁰ *Id.* at 09-3698 00035.

²¹ *Id.* at 09-3698 00033.

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31. The Board notes that the practice of relying entirely on the Standards Committee to determine the sponsor of a Member's travel carries with it a degree of risk. Further, while Members are required to receive pre-approval from the Standards Committee before they travel, it is the Member, and not the Standards Committee, that is ultimately accepting the travel from a private sponsor. The Board reads the pre-clearance process as a free-standing requirement the House adopted in 2007. There is no indication that the House intended it to supplant, or at the very least to completely supplant, Members' responsibility to abide by the travel rules when they accept privately sponsored travel. As a result, it is the Board's view that a reasonable reading of the travel rules places responsibility for identifying the sponsor with both the Member and the Standards Committee and not the Standards Committee alone. This shared responsibility also reflects the practical reality that, because the Member actually takes the trip, and the Standards Committee does not, the Member may, in certain circumstances, have access to information about the trip not available to the Standards Committee. In this instance, the Member had information about the sponsors of the conference not available to the Standards Committee, namely that numerous corporations were identified as sponsors of the conference.

32. Further, as described below, these other entities were, in fact, sponsors of the conference.

B. CARIB NEWS also Sponsored Delegate Christensen's Travel

33. Karl Rodney is the publisher of the CARIB NEWS, a weekly newspaper published in New York. He also identified himself as the CEO of the Carib News Foundation on the Private Sponsor Travel Certification described above.²²

34. According to Mr. Rodney, "general funds" of CARIB NEWS were "pooled" with payments from corporate sponsors, made both to CARIB NEWS and the Carib News Foundation and fees from attendees at the conference to pay conference expenses including "travel" and "hotel payments."²³

35. Therefore, CARIB NEWS was also effectively a sponsor of Delegate Christensen's trip.

C. Corporate Donations Were Earmarked for the Conference

36. *According to the House Ethics Manual:*

²² Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form signed by Karl Rodney (Oct. 3, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-3698 0007).

²³ Letter from Joel Cohen, Counsel for Karl Rodney (May 18, 2009) (Exhibit 6 at 09-3698 0081).

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The rule and implementing regulations are concerned with the organization(s) or individual(s) that actually pay for travel. Thus, for example, when a nonprofit organization pays for travel with donations that were earmarked, either formally or informally, for the trip, each such donor is deemed a —private source for the trip and (1) must be publicly disclosed as a trip sponsor on the applicable travel forms and (2) must itself be required to satisfy the above standards on proper sources of travel expenses.

37. In the course of conducting its review, the OCE has learned that the Carib News Foundation solicited earmarked funds for the conference. For example, Carib News Foundation sent a solicitation letter to Citigroup, Inc.²⁴



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

April 04, 2008

Mr. Eric Eve
Senior Vice President
Community Relations
Global Consumer Group
Citigroup Inc.
850 Third Avenue, 12th floor
New York, NY 10022

Dear Mr. Eve: *Eric*

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

Your support and that of *CITI* went a long way to make the Conference a success, and has fostered on-going growth in business achievements and impactful policy decisions. We appreciate your encouragement, your personal participation, and the very stature your presence brings to the Conference. We do get concrete results and expressed appreciation of new opportunities.

We can assure you that all the key stakeholders, Members of Congress, Heads and Ministers of Government, Elected Officials, Community and Business Leaders are all aware and appreciative of yours and *CITI'S* participation in this very important mission.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 – 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. We know of your interest to deepen the *CITI* local, regional and global connections, and I know the Conference can achieve that. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

38. Attached to this solicitation letter was a PowerPoint presentation.²⁵ The presentation solicits money only for the conference and not for any other purpose, outlining the

²⁴ Letter from Carib News Foundation to Mr. Eric Eve, Citigroup, Inc. (Apr. 4, 2008) (Exhibit 7 at 09-3698 0085) (a nearly identical letter was sent to IBM, AT&T, Pfizer, Verizon Foundation and others).

²⁵ *Id.* at 09-3698 0088-0102

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benefits of each level of sponsorship – Platinum, Gold, and Silver, along with lesser levels of sponsorship – in terms of the conference.²⁶ In each instance, the sponsorship covers travel related expenses such as gala events and meals.

PARTICIPATION

PLATINUM LEVEL - \$75,000

- ❖ Keynote Speaker at Main Event
- ❖ Sponsor Private VIP Reception and specially arranged forum
- ❖ Special Awards Presentation
- ❖ Display, Exhibition and signage
- ❖ Area of Conference -Reserved for exclusive sponsorship
- ❖ Full page Ad in program
- ❖ Air Transportation for 2 people
- ❖ Accommodations: One Suite and One Standard Room
- ❖ Included in all printed materials
- ❖ Included in Internet promotion
- ❖ Display company logo and link to our website
- ❖ Sponsor of a Gala Event
- ❖ Sponsor and Participate in a workshop
- ❖ Representative listed in program with bio and photo

²⁶ *Id.* at 09-3698 0095-0098

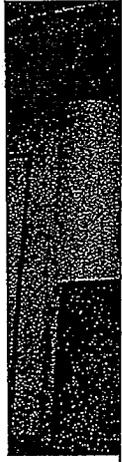
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PARTICIPATION

GOLD LEVEL - \$50,000

- ◆ Sponsor a Workshop
- ◆ Sponsor a Gala Event
- ◆ Display, Exhibition and signage
- ◆ Included in all Printed Material
- ◆ Included in all Internet Promotion
- ◆ Display of Company Logo and Link to Our Website
- ◆ Full Page Ad in Program
- ◆ Representation in the Brochure
- ◆ Air Transportation & room accommodations for 1



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PARTICIPATION

SILVER LEVEL - \$25,000

- ◆ Sponsor & Participate in a Workshop
- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in all printed materials
- ◆ Included in Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Sponsor an event i.e. breakfast, lunch or dinner
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in program with bio & photos
- ◆ Representatives listed in brochure

39. The OCE also learned that at least four of the corporations identified at the conference did in fact, make payments to the Carib News Foundation and CARIB NEWS (the newspaper) earmarked for the conference. The Carib News Foundation itself appears to

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be nothing more than a conduit in this case, and a partial one at that, for payments from corporations to support the conference. There is no evidence that the organization has filed a tax return with the IRS, under either Carib News Foundation or Carib News Charities, since 2005.²⁷ On its 2005 Form 990, the Carib News Foundation is shown as having no assets, no income and no expenses.²⁸ Not a single witness from a sponsor interviewed by the OCE knew of any other work of the Foundation. Indeed one witness, from IBM, was not aware that the Foundation played a role in the conference.²⁹

40. **Citigroup.** Citigroup made a \$75,000 payment to the CARIB NEWS for the conference.³⁰
41. **Verizon Foundation.** Verizon Foundation made a \$35,000 payment to the Carib News Charities³¹ for the conference.³²

²⁷ Letter from IRS to OCE (April 17, 2009) (Exhibit 8 at 09-3698 0107).

²⁸ *Id.* at 09-3698 0108-0119.

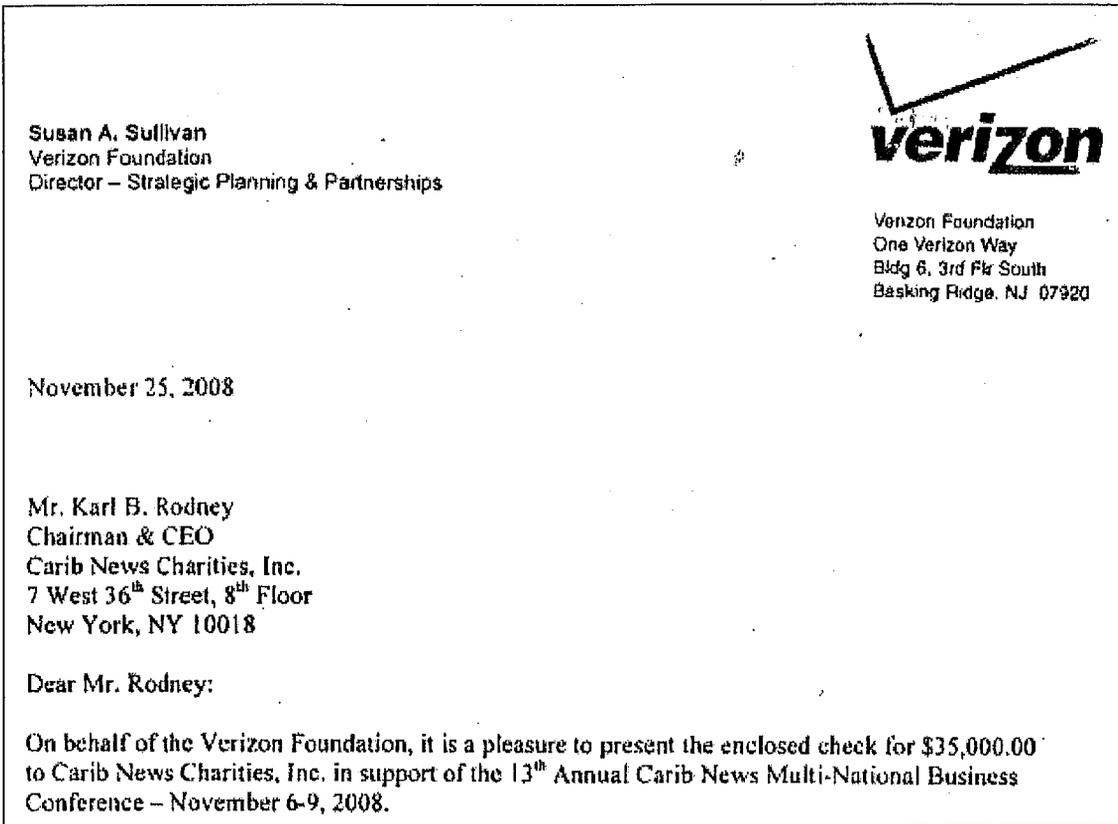
²⁹ Memorandum of Interview of the Representative of IBM (May 8, 2009) (Exhibit 9 at 09-3698 0123).

³⁰ Documents submitted to the OCE by Citigroup (Exhibit 7 at 09-3698 0084).

³¹ Mr. Rodney accepted corporate payments under the names of three entities: The Carib News, the Carib News Foundation, and the Carib News Charities. According to the Secretary of State for the State of New York, the organization that currently operates as the Carib News Foundation originally operated under the name the Carib News Charities.

³² Documents Submitted to the OCE by Verizon Foundation (Exhibit 10 at 09-3698 0127).

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42. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation said the Verizon Foundation funded the Carib News Foundation for the first time in 2008 and that the grant was issued to provide funding for the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference.³³
43. **IBM.** IBM made a \$20,000 payment to Carib News Foundation for the conference as indicated on the invoice that CARIB NEWS, INC. (not Carib News Foundation) sent IBM.³⁴

³³ Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Verizon Foundation (Mar. 23, 2009) (Exhibit 11 at 09-3698 0133).

³⁴ Documents submitted by IBM to the OCE (Exhibit 13 at 09-3698 0150).

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CARIB NEWS INC. 7 WEST 36TH STREET 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, 10018 212-944-1991		Invoice					
		<table border="1"> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Invoice #</th> </tr> <tr> <td>7/16/2008</td> <td>45122</td> </tr> </table>	Date	Invoice #	7/16/2008	45122	
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		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Description</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Sponsorship Multi-National Business Conference 2008 TAX ID 13-362060</td> <td style="text-align: right;">20,000.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Description	Amount	Sponsorship Multi-National Business Conference 2008 TAX ID 13-362060	20,000.00
Description	Amount						
Sponsorship Multi-National Business Conference 2008 TAX ID 13-362060	20,000.00						

44. **Macy's.** Macy's made a \$35,000 payment to CARIB NEWS for the conference.³⁵

45. **Pfizer.** Pfizer made a \$25,000 payment to CARIB NEWS for the conference.³⁶

46. Only American Airlines explicitly limited their sponsorship of the conference to individuals who were not elected officials, prohibiting CARIB NEWS from using any part of their sponsorship on Members of Congress and other government officials and their staff.³⁷ No other sponsor with whom we spoke placed restrictions on how or on whom their contribution could be spent.³⁸ The only expectation was that the contribution would be used for expenses associated with the conference.

³⁵ Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Macy's (Exhibit 20 at 09-3698 0241)

³⁶ Interview with Investigative Counsel on May 22, 2009.

³⁷ Documents submitted by American Airlines to the OCE (Exhibit 14 at 09-3698 0153-0157) and OCE Investigative Counsel interview with American Airlines Representative (Mar. 5, 2009) (American Airlines provided an in-kind contribution in the form of ten roundtrip tickets to be used by Carib News in any manner they chose with the exception that no ticket could be used for an elected official or the official's staff or family. The estimated value of their contribution was between \$6,200 and \$7,500).

³⁸ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of IBM (Exhibit 9 at 09-3698 0123); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation (Exhibit 12 at 09-3698 0145); Memorandum of Interview of Representative of Citi (Exhibit 4 at 09-3698 0065); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Macy's (Exhibit 20 at 09-3698 0241).

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D. Because Entities that Employ or Retain Lobbyists Sponsored the Event, Delegate Christensen's Involvement Should Have Been Limited to One Day

47. According to the House Ethics Manual:

***One-Day Event Trip.** The sole exception to the general prohibition on accepting officially-connected travel from a private source that retains or employs lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal is for trips involving attendance at or participation in one-day event (exclusive of travel time and an overnight stay).*

*Under the rule, it is permissible for a Member or staff person to accept and meals related to a **single night's lodging** and meals related to the trip, if offered by the trip sponsor. Members and staff must limit their involvement in connection with the event to a **single calendar day**, exclusive of travel time and an overnight stay. A Member or staff person may therefore attend only a single day of a multiple-day conference, forum, or other event that is being hosted primarily for individuals other than congressional invitees.*

*Under the Committee's travel regulations and guidelines implementing the travel provisions of the gift rule, the Committee may permit a **second night's stay** when determined —on a case-by-case basis to be practically required to participate in the one-day event (House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)). Some circumstances in which the Committee may permit a second night's stay are for certain long-distance trips, when a Member or staff person is participating in a full day's worth of officially-connected activities such that a second night's stay is necessary to accomplish the purpose of the trip; or other exceptional circumstances that are described in detail by the traveler. The traveler will be personally responsible for any expenses incurred beyond those allowed by the Committee in connection with the second night's stay.³⁹*

48. Citigroup, IBM and Verizon employ or retain lobbyists.⁴⁰

49. Delegate Christensen spent three days at the conference.⁴¹

³⁹ House Ethics Manual at 92-93 citing (House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)) (emphasis in original).

⁴⁰ Clerk of the House of Representatives Lobbying Disclosure Report 2008 (excerpt) (Exhibit 15 at 09-3698 0159-0164).

⁴¹ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Delegate Donna M. Christensen (Dec. 22, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-3698 0002-0003).

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50. There is substantial reason to believe that Delegate Christensen violated *House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)* by accepting trip-related reimbursements from entities that employ or retain lobbyists for participating in an event for more than one day.

E. The Government of St. Maarten Made In-Kind Donations to the 2008 Conference and Played a Significant Role in Planning, Organizing and Conducting the 2008 Conference

51. The Government of St. Maarten was the host of the 2008 conference and the Leader of Government of St. Maarten personally invited Delegate Christensen to attend.⁴²

	<h2>Government of Sint Maarten</h2>
	<p>Sarah Wescot-Williams, M.Sc.</p>
<p>Telephone: (599) 543-1166</p> <p>Fax: (599) 542-4292</p> <p>E-mail: comed@sintmaarten.net</p>	<p>St. Maarten, August 28, 2008</p> <p>Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen U.S House of Representatives 1510 Longworth HOB Washington, DC 20515 <i>Phone: 202-225-1790</i> <i>Fax: 202-225-5517</i></p> <p>Honorable Congresswoman Christensen,</p> <p>The well-known Carib News Foundation has once more chosen our island, St. Maarten, as venue for its 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference scheduled to be held from November 6 – 9, 2008 at the Sonesta Maho Beach Resort & Casino. The conference is being held under the theme: "A Region in Transition – Strategy for Change, Alliance for Progress".</p>

52. In that capacity, it provided in-kind donations to support the conference and also had a substantial role in planning the conference. As a result, it was effectively a sponsor of the 2008 conference.⁴³

⁴² Letter from Leader of Government of St. Maarten, Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, to Delegate Donna Christensen (Aug. 28, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-3698 0011).

⁴³ In 2007, the "host" of the conference was the Government of Antigua and Barbuda. In the event that the Government of Antigua and Barbuda provided the same support as St. Maarten did in 2008, then the members may have accepted gifts from a foreign government which would have been reportable under the Foreign Gift and Decorations Act. In addition, if the Government of Antigua provided these gifts to the Members, and if they were more than \$335 in value, then the Members should have disclosed them on their financial disclosure form for 2007, which was filed in May 2008.

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53. Rodney provided the Leader of Government of St. Maarten, Commissioner Sarah Wescott-Williams, with a list of "Basic Requirements to Host Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference."⁴⁴ These included:

- To provide the care and comfort for the VIP's attending i.e.
 - To provide 25 all-inclusive rooms for the VIP's and members of Congress attending;
 - To provide appropriate mode of transportation for VIP's and members of Congress - cars or specialized vans - not buses;
- To be a designated sponsor in one of the categories: *Title, Main or Regular Sponsor* (See Attachment)
- To organize a "Host Country Evening" - The Friday evening, the host country will host at an appropriate location an evening of food, refreshment, cultural presentation and entertainment.
- Provide for local entertainment for the various functions -
 - The Opening Ceremonies
 - The Reception
 - The Gala Dinner
- To assist in Promotion and Publicity of the conference both locally and through international offices and official publications.
- Assist in securing competitive hotel rates.
- Equip and staff conference secretariat.
- Prime Minister to issue invitations along with CARIB NEWS to members of the US Congress, other Prime Ministers and Ministers of Government.
- Participate in the Forum with Members of Congress.
- Arrange tours and activities of interest for VIP's and/or their spouse.

54. According to a statement from Mr. Rodney submitted to the OCE, the Government of St. Maarten, (1) developed local Host Committees to facilitate local planning; (2) helped negotiate the rate with the hotel, (3) assisted in developing the theme of the Conference, (4) assisted in identifying local speakers, including the Leader of Government, (5) assisted in local publicity, (6) provided local entertainment, including a school choir and cultural items, (7) arranged Host Country Evening on Friday, November 8 (the whole

⁴⁴ Letter from Karl Rodney to Commissioner Sarah Wescott-Williams (Aug. 13, 2008) (Exhibit 16 at 09-3698 0166).

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group was transported to another property for refreshments and entertainment), (8) helped with local transportation for some CARIB NEWS employees and helped arrange accommodations for some guests (not paying for such accommodations), (9) participated as event speakers, and (10) issued invitations to attend to specially invited guests.”⁴⁵ These contributions to the conference were all in-kind, according to Mr. Rodney, and he did not provide an estimated value for them.⁴⁶

55. In addition, because these donations to the conference are from a foreign government, Members are required to take certain actions under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act.⁴⁷

56. Delegate Christensen told the OCE that the Government of St. Maarten plays a number of roles in the conference, including participating in holding the conference.⁴⁸

III. Role of the Chair’s Counsel in the Approval of the 12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in 2007

57. As previously stated, Delegate Christensen told the OCE that she relied on the Standards Committee to determine who the true sponsor of the conference was based on information the Standards Committee received from the organization that invited her to the conference—the Carib News Foundation.⁴⁹ In the course of the Board’s review, the OCE requested documents from Mr. Karl Rodney, the CEO of the Carib News Foundation. Mr. Rodney voluntarily submitted documents to the OCE that included, among other things, communication with certain members of the staff of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct in 2007. The contents of these documents from 2007 are relevant because they indicate the role of the corporations was concealed from the Committee in 2008.

58. The Board requested that the Committee provide the information submitted to it for 2008 and the Committee declined to do so.

59. The documents submitted by Mr. Rodney show that in 2007 the CARIB NEWS initially identified, on several occasions, other corporations as sponsors of the Conference. The designation of these corporate entities as sponsors presented a problem for CARIB

⁴⁵ Letter from Joel Cohen, Counsel for Karl Rodney (May 18, 2009) (Exhibit 6 at 09-3698 0080-0081).

⁴⁶ *Id.*

⁴⁷ 5 U.S.C. § 7342.

⁴⁸ Memorandum of Interview of Delegate Donna Christensen (May 4, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-3698 0031).

⁴⁹ *Id.* at 09-3698 0030-0035.

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NEWS and the Members who wished to attend the conference insofar as their attendance would be limited to one day. In 2007, as a result of changes in the travel rules, a Member could not, in most instances, participate in an event (such as a conference) for more than one day if their travel to and participation in the event was paid for by an entity that employed or retained a lobbyist.⁵⁰ Many of the corporate entities who sponsored the 2007, as well as the 2008 conference, employed or retained lobbyists. Although CARIB NEWS initially identified these entities as sponsors, following interactions with the counsel to the then-chair of the Committee, apparently without the knowledge of the Standards Committee staff attorney assigned to review the trip, the documents identifying these organizations as sponsors were changed.

60. Subsequently, in 2008, the Carib News Foundation submitted documents that omitted the role of these other corporations as sponsors of the conference. Further, the staff attorney assigned to review the trip in 2008 was not the same staff attorney that reviewed the trip in 2007.
61. The earliest communication between CARIB NEWS or the Carib News Foundation and anyone associated with the Ethics Committee in the documents submitted to the OCE from Mr. Rodney is an e-mail dated September 17, 2007 from Patricia Louis, an Executive Assistant at CARIB NEWS, to Dawn Kelly Mobley, Counsel to the then-Chair of the Ethics Committee.⁵¹
62. The next day, on September 18, 2007, Ms. Mobley responded and asked for "any information on your sponsor's status."⁵²
63. That same day Ms. Louis responded, identifying multiple corporations as "sponsors" of the trip.⁵³

⁵⁰ House Ethics Manual (2008) at 92-93 (citing House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)).

⁵¹ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Sept. 17, 2007, 3:47 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0213) (The Board elected not to interview Ms. Mobley and Ms. Olson because the Standards Committee voted against disclosing information to the OCE. The Board determined that it would have been an act of bad faith on the part of the OCE to attempt to interview staff and former staff of the Standards Committee in light of the Committee's refusal to grant OCE access to their records.)

⁵² E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 18, 2007, 12:57 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0213).

⁵³ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Sept. 18, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0213) (The Board notes that while the document that contains the e-mail does not have a header which indicates a date and time, both the e-mail before it and responding to it are dated September 18, 2007).

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**We had received the forms from Shelley.
The sponsors to date are : MACYS, PFIZER, AMERICAN AIRLINES, GOLDEN KRUST
BAKERY, CARIBBEAN FOOD DELIGHTS, PREFERRED HEALTH PARTNERS, IBM,
AT&T/INGULAR**

Regards

**Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018**

64. In response that same day, Ms. Mobley asked, “[d]o any of these organizations have or retain a lobbyist?”⁵⁴
65. The next day, Ms. Mobley further responded asking Ms. Louis whether she, Ms. Mobley, should “assume” the sponsor was CARIB NEWS, despite the fact that Ms. Louis had not identified CARIB NEWS as a sponsor.⁵⁵ The Board notes that in her e-mail, Ms. Louis did not identify CARIB NEWS as a sponsor. Further, Ms. Mobley acknowledged that she had been told corporations identified by Ms. Louis were “sponsoring food and other parts of the Antigua travel.” Under House rules in place at the time, and under current rules, sponsoring a meal makes these corporations sponsors of a Member’s travel.⁵⁶ The Board also notes Ms. Mobley’s use of the phrase “safe review,” which the Board takes to mean a review which results in approval of the trip.

⁵⁴ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 18, 2007, 7:03 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0212).

⁵⁵ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 19, 2007, 2:16 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0212).

⁵⁶ House Ethics Manual (2008) at 97-98.

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From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 2:16 PM
To: 'plouis'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Patricia:

I understand that several organizations will take part in sponsoring food and other parts of the Antigua travel. However, I need clarification on the *official* sponsor; that organization providing travel, lodging, and organizing the trip? Am I to assume it is CARIB NEWS? The official sponsoring organization must not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent (and the sponsor must have a direct and immediate relationship with the event or location being visited). To assist with this, I am scanning information/guidelines and emailing in just a moment. Please provide a fax number if that method of submittal will be more helpful. If there is someone handling this matter, please provide me their direct contact information as I must ensure adherence to these new guidelines pre-travel.

In any event, I do need to know who the official sponsor will be. I have assigned a staff attorney to review your documents and will remain in contact with you until this matter is finalized.

Please respond today or tomorrow at the latest. I will be traveling for a while thereafter and must ensure that my staff attorney has all that is necessary for a safe review.

Dawn Kelly Mobley
Ethics Counsel for Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones
Chairwoman, Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
202/225-7103

66. Later in the afternoon on September 19, 2007, Ms. Mobley sent Ms. Louis another e-mail where she discussed the limitations posed by the new travel rules the House had adopted in 2007. Ms. Mobley told Ms. Louis, "the new rules might prohibit some things you were able to do with so many different sponsors in the past." Thus, Ms. Mobley again acknowledged that these corporations were sponsors and that the new travel rules affected the nature of their participation in the trip.⁵⁷

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 3:23 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Lastly, just send the sponsor form asap for review. The new rules might prohibit some things you were able to do with so many different sponsors in the past, but until we get the form, we can't make the most informed decision. I have let the Congresswomen know we are awaiting your sponsor form. Just as you do, they would also like assurance. Thank you.

67. On September 21, 2007, Ms. Louis responded.⁵⁸

⁵⁷ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 19, 2007, 3:23 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0212).

⁵⁸ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Sept. 21, 2007, 1:56 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0210).

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Registration

From: plouls [plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2007 1:56 PM
To: 'Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Re Sponsorship Information

The official sponsor of the conference is the CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION, a not-for-profit 501C3 Organization that provides educational information about the Caribbean Region and its relationship with the US in doing business and developing good neighborly ties with the United States, security, health, education etc.

The CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION does not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent.

Please use me as your contact for the purposes of this Conference.

The form will be emailed to you this afternoon.

Regards

Patricia Louis

Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

68. That same day, on September 21, 2007, Ms. Louis faxed Ms. Mobley a Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form. On the form Carib News Foundation is listed as the sponsor of the trip in question 1.⁵⁹

⁵⁹ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form (Sept. 21, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0200).

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**U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct**

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

Carib News Foundation

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): _____

69. However, the Carib News Foundation listed a number of corporations as private sponsors, each with responsibility for planning and conducting the trip, in question 12.⁶⁰ This is at least the second instance where the Carib News Foundation identified these corporations as the trip's sponsors.

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: Pfizer-Education/health
AT&T and IBM - provide technology to the region. MACY's - seeks new vendor sources, Citibank- opportunities
in the region.

70. This prompted the following e-mail from Ms. Mobley to Ms. Louis.⁶¹ The Board notes that Ms. Mobley stated she was "working through" the Carib News Foundation's forms "before leaving them with our staff attorney."

⁶⁰ *Id.* at 09-3698 0201.

⁶¹ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 25, 2007, 12:42 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0197).

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From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2007, 12:42 PM
To: plouis
Subject: Query

I am working through your forms before leaving them with our staff attorney and have a question. Query: Why did you not list GARIB NEWS as the sponsor as you'd indicated instead of Macy's, etc. The official sponsor for travel, lodging, and planning is still Carib News, correct?

71. Later that same day, Ms. Mobley queried further.⁶² At least as of this date, following at least two instances where Ms. Louis identified these corporations as sponsors, Ms. Mobley appeared to treat these entities as "co-sponsors."

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:08 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Query

We are trying to work through a problem in approving the co-sponsors piece. Are they each paying for a one-day, widely attended event or more days? Please read the Gift Rules I forwarded you on this matter.

72. On October 3, 2007, Ms. Mobley informed Ms. Louis that Susan Olson was the staff attorney assigned to review the trip.⁶³

73. A copy of the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form provided to a Member's office on October 5, 2007, shows that by October 5, 2007, following its interaction with Ms. Mobley, Carib News Foundation changed its answer to question 12 regarding other private sponsors. As previously highlighted, as of September 21, 2007, Carib News Foundation provided the following answer to question 12.⁶⁴

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: Pfizer-Education/health AT&T and IBM - provide technology to the region. MACY's - seeks new vendor sources, Gilibank opportunities in the region.

74. However, as of October 5, 2007, it provided a different answer to question 12.⁶⁵

⁶² E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 25, 2007, 5:08 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0197).

⁶³ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 3, 2007, 12:39 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0194).

⁶⁴ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form (Sept. 21, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0201).

⁶⁵ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form (Oct. 5, 2007) (Exhibit 18 at 09-3698 0216).

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12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:
CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (SEE ATTACHED SHEET)

And the attached sheet provided the following information.⁶⁶

Item #12
CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture. Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

On October 10, 2007, Susan Olson, the staff attorney on the Standards Committee assigned to review the trip e-mailed Ms. Louis the following questions⁶⁷ (and copied Ms. Mobley and the Chief Counsel of the Standards Committee at that time, Bill O'Reilly). While the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form for the trip had been changed by this date, the draft agenda for the conference apparently had not and still showed corporate sponsors for various events. What Ms. Olson does not appear to be aware of is the fact that Carib News Foundation had previously identified the same corporations she is raising questions about as private sponsors on its original Private Sponsor Travel Certification form.

Original Message
From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn Kelly Mobley@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's

⁶⁶ *Id.* at 09-3698 0220.

⁶⁷ E-mail from Susan Olson to Patricia Louis (Oct. 10, 2007, 4:01 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0182-0183).

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(Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are sponsoring sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]" which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson
 Counsel
 House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

75. The Committee's Advisory Opinion dated October 27, 2006 indicates, as Ms. Olson wrote, that Carib News Foundation told the Standards Committee in 2006 that there were several corporate entities that sponsored the conference.⁶⁸ The "Advisory Opinion" did not conclude that these entities were, in fact, the trip's sponsors, as the e-mail seems to indicate.

⁶⁸ Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, Advisory Opinion (Oct. 27, 2006) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0206-0208).

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76. A draft agenda for the conference dated October 3, 2007, identified a “sponsor” for each event listed.⁶⁹ This appears to be the version of the agenda that Olson is referring to in her e-mail. For example, “Preferred Health Partners” is identified as the sponsor of this event on “Port & Airport Security—The Mandates.”⁷⁰

<u>PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES</u>	
Moderator	Lance Oglet Hon. Bennie Thompson
	Dr. Basil Wilson
<u>AGENDA</u>	
Sponsor	Preferred Health Partners

And Citi is identified as the sponsor of this event on “Community Outreach – Education – Access and Collaboration.”⁷¹

4:00pm - 5:30pm	-	COMMUNITY OUTREACH - <u>EDUCATION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION</u>
Venue:	-	Off Site
Sponsor	-	CITI
Moderator:	-	Michael Flanigan
Speakers:	-	Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College Hon. Danny Davis - Member of Congress Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress Hon. Bertrand Joseph

⁶⁹ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 3, 2007) (Exhibit 19 at 09-3698 0222-0238).

⁷⁰ *Id.* at 09-3698 0228

⁷¹ *Id.* at 09-3698 0234

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77. Ms. Louis forwarded Ms. Olson's e-mail to Ms. Mobley, Congressman Charles Rangel's Chief of Staff George Dalley and Delegate Donna Christensen's scheduler Shelley Thomas, and asked them to advise her on a response.⁷²

-----Original Message-----
From: plouis <plouis@nycaribnews.com>
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn Thomas, Shelley Dalley, George
Sent: Wed Oct 10 17:56:25 2007
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval issues

Please see e-mail I received from Ms. Olson of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

A possible response could be: The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation. As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Please advise us.

Regards and Thanks

Ms. Louis appears to be pre-clearing her response to questions posed by the Standards Committee staff attorney. There is no indication that the staff attorney knew that the answer to her question had already been discussed with the counsel to the then-chair of the Standards Committee. Substantively, based on documents obtained by the OCE and interviews with sponsors, the statement "the sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip" appears to be true. However, the statement "and the general work of the Foundation," does not appear to be true. All of the sponsors OCE interviewed stated unequivocally that the contribution was intended for the conference.⁷³

⁷² E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley, George Dalley, and Shelley Thomas (Oct. 10, 2007, 5:56 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0188).

⁷³ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of IBM (May 8, 2009) (Exhibit 9); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation (Mar. 23, 2009) (Exhibit 11); Memorandum of Interview of Representative of Citi (Mar. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 4); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Macy's (May 28, 2009) (Exhibit 20).

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78. Less than an hour later Ms. Mobley responded.⁷⁴ The Board notes Ms. Mobley's concern with whether any of the corporate sponsors paid for an event and also retained a lobbyist" and her conclusion that if they did, Members of Congress could only attend for one day.

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 6:49 PM
To: plouis@nycarlbnews.com
Subject: Re: Carlb News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Her question centers on whether any of these "co-sponsors" retains a lobbyist or foreign. This is the issue you and I focused on previously. It is a central problem if any do and are paying for the events. If so, you are in the same position as last year with one-day events. Call Susan back tomorrow as early as possible. Hopefully, these co-sponsors don't retain lobbyists, but you should have their representations on this matter. At a minimum, Macy's does, right? Alternatively, if they are only sponsoring event tables or the like, a lobbyist will not be problematic.

Sent using BlackBerry

79. Ms. Louis then faxed Ms. Mobley.⁷⁵ The Board notes that Ms. Louis again appears to be pre-clearing her responses to the staff attorney, Ms. Olson, with Ms. Mobley ("Kindly review and advise before I send to Ms. Olson.").

⁷⁴ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 10, 2007, 6:49 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0188).

⁷⁵ Fax from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Oct. 11, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0185).

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CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	Dawn Kelly Mobley	FROM:	P. Louis <i>[Signature]</i>
COMPANY:	Ethics Counsel for Cong. Stephanie Tubbs Jones	DATE:	10/11/07
FAX NUMBER:	202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:	
RE:	Travel Form		

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Further to our conversations of this morning, following is the Travel Certification Form ..

The Conference is paid for by the Carib News Foundation. The companies are participants, are not sponsors or co-sponsors for any part of the trip and play no role in the planning or content.

The program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants.

I regret the mis-understanding and thank you for holding my hand as I go through and grow through this process which is new to me.

Kindly review and advise before I send to Ms. Olsen.

I look forward to hearing from you.

80. The Board further notes that Ms. Louis represented that, "the program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants," an action taken following Ms. Louis' interactions with Ms. Mobley. A copy of the revised agenda was submitted by another

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Member of Congress who attended the conference.⁷⁶ The Board notes that this “updated” schedule changed the label applied to “sponsors” to “participants” and in some cases deleted any mention of the corporate entity that had previously been identified as a “sponsor.”

10/24/2007 19:00 2129442089

*Updated Schedule
for Carib News* PAGE 88

WORKING DRAFT 10/22

12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
Antigua & Barbuda

81. This event was previously identified in the earlier draft as being “sponsored” by Preferred Health Partners.⁷⁷ Now it identifies them as merely a “participant.”⁷⁸

PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES

Moderator : Mr. Lance Ogiste
Hon. Bennie Thompson
Hon. Dwer Astaphan

Venue Sandals Grande

Participant - Preferred Health Partners

⁷⁶ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 22, 2007) (Exhibit 21 at 09-3698 0244).

⁷⁷ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 3, 2007) (Exhibit 19 at 09-3698 0228).

⁷⁸ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 22, 2007) (Exhibit 21 at 09-3698 0248).

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82. In another example, the Board notes that the following event was previously identified as being sponsored by CITI.⁷⁹ Now CITI is not even mentioned.⁸⁰ The Board notes that the moderator was an executive at CITI at the time and represented the company at the conference.⁸¹

5:00pm - 6:30pm	-	COMMUNITY OUTREACH - <u>EDUCATION & YOUTH DIRECTION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION</u>
Venue:	*	Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Centre
Moderator:	-	Michael Flanigan
Speakers:	-	Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress Hon. Bertrand Joseph

83. These changes were entirely cosmetic. There is no indication that the corporations' substantive role in the conference changed in any way.

84. That same day, October 11, 2007, Ms. Louis responded to Ms. Olson, stating that "[t]he sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip."⁸² The Board notes that this is precisely the answer she had pre-cleared with Mobley.

⁷⁹ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 3, 2007) (Exhibit 19 at 09-3698 0234).

⁸⁰ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 22, 2007) (Exhibit 21 at 09-3698 0254).

⁸¹ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of Citi (Mar. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 4).

⁸² E-mail from Patricia Louis to Susan Olson (Oct. 10, 2007, 10:33 AM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0182).

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From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:33 AM
To: Olson, Susan
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,
In response to your e-mail:
The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation.
As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

No federally registered lobbyist or foreign agent will be accompanying the Members of participating in the program.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

85. Ms. Olson then forwarded her exchange with Ms. Louis to Bill O'Reilly, the Staff Director and Chief Counsel of the Ethics Committee at that time, and to Dawn Mobley.⁸³ Based on this e-mail, it appears that Ms. Olson was unaware that Mobley had been communicating directly with the Carib News Foundation. There is also no evidence that Ms. Mobley told her she had been involved in this manner. Witnesses for the various sponsors told the OCE that they did contribute funding directly to the trip (the conference) and in no case did they simply make donations to the "general funds" of the CARIB NEWS or the Carib News Foundation.⁸⁴

⁸³ E-mail from Susan Olson to Bill O'Reilly and Dawn Kelly Mobley (Oct. 12, 2007 9:29 AM) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0182).

⁸⁴ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of IBM (May 8, 2009) (Exhibit 9); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation (Mar. 23, 2009) (Exhibit 11); Memorandum of Interview of Representative of Citi (Mar. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 4); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Macy's (May 28, 2009) (Exhibit 20).

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From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:29 AM
To: O'Reilly, Bill; Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Bill and Dawn,
Please note the following response from Ms. Louis at Carib News. Unfortunately, it appears that if each sponsor contributes funding directly to the trip (an earmark of funds) and not simply to the general funds of Carib News, then the assumption is that all of these entities are co-sponsors of the trip for purposes of the House travel rules. If that is the case and since it is likely that at least one of these co-sponsors hires or retains a federally registered lobbyist, the trip could only be a one-day event trip. Thus the Committee can't approve the trip as it currently exists.

But, if you have a different interpretation of the below information from Ms. Louis, please do let me know. Thanks! Susan.

86. Ms. Mobley then forwarded Ms. Olson's internal e-mail to Ms. Louis.⁸⁵ The Board notes that Ms. Mobley counseled that these "other organizations" can "participate" in the program but "should not help pay for the trip."

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:59 AM
To: 'plouis'
Subject: FW: Confidential

Please read both emails below. Give Susan a call as soon as you work through the link, let her know you are following up. Please make yourself available to work through this matter today. Thank you Patricia. (These other organizations can participate in the program but should not help pay for the trip).

87. Later that day, Ms. Mobley sent Ms. Louis an additional e-mail.⁸⁶ As previously stated, the sponsors whom the OCE interviewed all stated that they did not "support [the] foundation annually" and did specifically designate their donations for the 2007 conference. Either Ms. Mobley was repeating inaccurate information Ms. Louis had given her, or she was giving inaccurate information to Ms. Olson without prompting.

⁸⁵ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 12, 2007 9:59 AM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0181).

⁸⁶ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 12, 2007 1:55 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0181).

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Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 1:55 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Confidential

The fax did not come through. I will be stepping out of the office for the remainder of the day, but will be in early Monday. Please follow up again with Susan. I have explained that the organizations you labeled as co-sponsors are not. They support your foundation annually, but have not and will not pay for the Members trip. This is simply a misunderstanding of the terms "sponsor", "contributor", and "participant" as used in the Ethics rules which is why I sent you the Rules book for preparation.

Once you are able to clarify these issues and make sure your itinerary passes too, you should be fine. An Ethics Committee Staff Attorney must review and approve as well. Your Staff Attorney is Susan.

88. Ms. Olson then sent Ms. Louis additional questions about the corporate entities previously identified as "sponsors."⁸⁷

From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 2:41 PM
To: plouis
Cc: Kelly Mobley, Dawn; O'Nelly, Bill
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Louis;

Please explain in more detail your email message below relative to the "sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip." In this regard, do the following entities pay for any of the expenses of the trip for the invited House Members, including roundtrip air transportation costs, lodging costs, meal costs, cost of a particular meal or reception, etc.?

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM

⁸⁷ E-mail from Susan Olson to Patricia Louis (Oct. 12, 2007 2:41 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0176-0177).

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- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

89. Three days later, Ms. Louis sent an e-mail to Ms. Mobley, but addressed to Ms. Olson.⁸⁸ This may have been inadvertent or, based on their previous practice, Ms. Louis may have done this before she then sent it to Ms. Olson. This is the final communication regarding the 2007 conference provided to the OCE.

From: plouis [plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2007 11:00 AM
To: 'Kelly Mobley, Dawn'
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,
In response to your e-mail, the answer to your question is NO.

Regards and Thanks for your patience.

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

90. In an interview with the OCE, a staff member of Representative Rangel's office, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office, described discussions with Ms. Louis and Ms. Mobley in 2007 on the topic of how the new travel rules would affect the Members' participation in the 2007 conference.⁸⁹ The staff member said that Ms. Louis, and Mr. and Mrs. Rodney told him that the then Chair of the Standards Committee had assigned

⁸⁸ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Oct. 18, 2007 11:00 AM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-3698 0176).

⁸⁹ Memorandum of Interview of Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office (May 27-28, 2009) (Exhibit 22 at 09-3698 0258).

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her counsel on the Committee, Ms. Mobley, to “find a way” to allow Members of Congress to participate in the conference under the new travel rules passed by the House in 2007.⁹⁰ The staff member told the OCE that Congressman Rangel told him that the then-Chair had made similar statements to him.⁹¹

91. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel’s Office said the “framework” that was decided upon was that the Carib News Foundation would raise money from corporate donors who had previously sponsored the conference and that this money in turn would be deposited in a “common fund” that would then be used to pay for the conference. It was Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel’s Office’s understanding that if this was done, then Members of Congress could participate in the conference without any restrictions imposed by the new rules. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel’s Office said that it was important to break the link between the corporations and the conference under the new rules and that using the Foundation in this way would enable that to happen. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel’s Office said he learned of this new framework for the conference from Mr. and Mrs. Rodney and that they represented this approach had come from Ms. Mobley on the Standards Committee.⁹²

92. This conduct in 2007 is relevant to the present reviews for a number of reasons. First, in and of itself, the intervention of the Chair’s counsel in this matter is troubling and more likely constituted an improper manipulation of the clearance process. Following Ms. Mobley’s intervention, Carib News Foundation changed the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form to delete any mention of private sponsors before it was sent to the Standards Committee’s staff attorney assigned to review the matter. This occurred after Carib News Foundation had told Ms. Mobley that these corporations were sponsors of the conference on several occasions. Ms. Louis’s initial, and presumably truthful, submissions regarding the conference described the corporate entities as sponsors. However, if the corporations were sponsors of the conference, as opposed to Carib News Foundation, then the Members of Congress ability to attend would have been limited because, the corporations, unlike the Carib News Foundation, employed or retained lobbyists. It appears from the correspondence between Ms. Mobley and Ms. Louis, and Ms. Olson’s apparent ignorance of the correspondence, that Ms. Mobley assisted Ms. Louis in preparing inaccurate answers for Ms. Olson in order to ensure that Ms. Olson would approve the trip in a manner that would not limit the attendance of the Members of Congress. Ms. Mobley’s involvement in the process seems to have prevented the

⁹⁰ *Id.* at 09-3698 0259

⁹¹ *Id.* at 09-3698 0259.

⁹² *Id.*

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Standards Committee and its staff from correctly performing its responsibilities. Ms. Olson's approval of the trip was predicated on an incomplete or inaccurate factual record, in which Ms. Mobley apparently was complicit, putting at risk those Members of Congress who relied on that approval.

93. The 2007 conduct and attendant misrepresentations appear to have directly influenced what occurred in 2008. When the Carib News Foundation submitted materials to the Standards Committee for their approval of the 2008 conference, the Carib News Foundation took the same approach that they had been counseled to take in 2007 and did not disclose the role of the corporate sponsors on the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form or the conference agenda.
94. In fact, in 2008, Carib News Foundation again first submitted its document to Ms. Mobley.⁹³ The Board notes that while Ms. Mobley remains an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives as of the date of this report, the above described conduct did not occur after the day the House passed the resolution creating the OCE, and therefore, under the terms of the that resolution, the OCE does not have jurisdiction to open a preliminary review into Ms. Mobley's conduct.

⁹³ Fax from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Aug. 20, 2008) (Exhibit 23 at 09-3698 0264).

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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Kelly Mobley	FROM: Patricia Louis
COMPANY: Committee on Standards of official conduct	DATE: 8/20/08
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: 2008 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE	

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Following is the completed form and attachments re travel for Members of Congress to attend the 2008 Multinational Business Conference scheduled for November 6-9, 2008 in St. Maarten.

Regards

IV. The Value of the Trip Reported on the Member's Post-Travel Disclosure Form

95. Under House Rule 25 clause 5(d), Members are required to obtain prior approval of the Standards Committee for trips where the Member's travel expenses will be reimbursed by a private source. The Standards Committee has adopted regulations, including a pre- and post-travel form Members must complete, pursuant to House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B)⁹⁴ that requires Members to publicly disclose "trip expenses."
96. According to the House Ethics Manual, "[t]he rule and implementing regulations are concerned with the organization(s) or individual(s) that actually pay for travel." House Ethics Manual (2008) at 97.

⁹⁴ House Rule 25(5)(h)(i)(1)(B) directs the Standards Committee to establish, "regulations describing the information it will require individuals subject to this clause to submit to the committee in order to obtain the prior approval of the committee for any travel covered by this clause . . ." On February 20, 2007, the Committee issued guidelines and regulations concerning the travel restrictions and requirements.

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97. There is substantial reason to believe that Delegate Christensen violated House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B) by underreporting the value of the travel reimbursements she received to attend the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference.

A. Representations from Carib News Foundation

98. Carib News Foundation submitted a Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form to each Member it sponsored for the 2008 trip—Representatives Christensen, Kilpatrick, Payne, Rangel and Thompson.⁹⁵ This form was provided to each Member Office and then submitted by the Member Office to the Standards Committee as part of the pre-travel approval process.

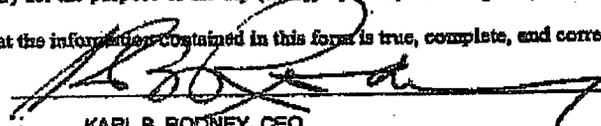
21. **TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT**

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	410	260	145
For each accompanying family member	410	0	145

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee		
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

Address: 7 WEST 36th STREET, 8th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

Telephone number: (212) 944-1981

Fax number: (212) 944-2098

Email Address: CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

⁹⁵ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form signed by Karl Rodney (Oct. 3, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-3698 0007).

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99. The Board notes that the Carib News Foundation provided the same exact dollar figure with very minor variations for each Member of Congress that attended the conference despite the fact that Carib News Foundation recognized on the same form that the Congressional travelers were travelling to and from different cities. In fact, the Congressional travelers came from St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands; Detroit, Michigan; Newark, New Jersey; New York, New York; and Jackson, Mississippi.
100. After the conference, the Carib News Foundation provided a memorandum to Representatives Rangel, Thompson, Payne and Kilpatrick and Delegate Christensen that represented to contain the value of the trip-related reimbursements.⁹⁶

	<p>CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018 TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089 E-MAIL: INFO@CARIBNEWSCONFERENCE.COM</p>
TO :	Congresswoman Donna Christensen
FROM :	Karl B. Rodney
DATE :	November 18, 2008
<hr/>	
SUBJECT :	Business Conference Travel Information
<hr/>	
<p>The following is the breakdown of the value for the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference held in St. Maarten, N.A. from November 6 - 9, 2008.</p>	
Airfare	- \$410.00
Hotel	- \$270.00 (Nov. 6 & 7)
Registration/	- \$175.00
Transportation	
Total amount of package =	\$ 855.00

⁹⁶ Memorandum from Carib News Foundation to Delegate Christensen (Nov. 18, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-3698 0012).

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101. The Board notes that the Carib News Foundation provided the same "total transportation" figure to the Congressional travelers despite the fact that Carib News Foundation had, in its own files, airline tickets and receipts for each Congressional traveler that showed, with the exception of Congressman Payne, that the actual cost of the ticket was significantly higher.

102. In addition, according to Mr. Rodney, the cost charged to "the public" to attend the conference for four days and three nights was \$840 for double occupancy or \$1085 for single occupancy. The cost of attendance included "room accommodations, meals, and admission to the Conference." However, these figures were not disclosed pre-travel to the Members or the Standards Committee, nor were these figures disclosed to the Members after the conference.

B. Information Required from the Congressional Traveler

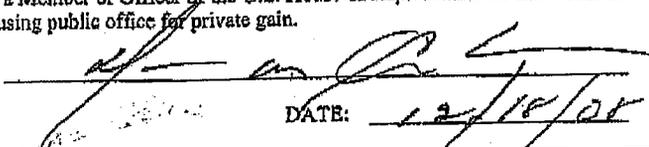
103. On her Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form,⁹⁷ Delegate Christensen certified her travel cost as the following:

9. **TRIP EXPENSES:** Obtain actual dollar amounts from the sponsor. If exact dollar amounts are unavailable by the due date, provide a good faith estimate and file an amended form once the correct amounts are received.

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses
For Member or Officer:	\$410.00	\$270.00	Included in lodging
For accompanying family member:			

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Specific Nature of Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For Member or Officer:	\$175.00	Ground transportation & registration fee
For accompanying family member:		

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER:  DATE: 12/18/08

⁹⁷ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Delegate Donna M. Christensen (Dec. 22, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-3698 0003).

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104. Delegate Christensen acknowledged her signature on her post-travel disclosure form.⁹⁸

By signing the document, Delegate Christensen certified that her transportation expenses were \$410. This is the figure in the memorandum from Karl Rodney cited above.⁹⁹

105. However, according to records produced by Mr. Rodney, Delegate Christensen's total transportation expenses were \$578. Delegate Christensen received two-one way tickets in the amount of \$381 and \$197, respectively.¹⁰⁰

FOR: CHRISTENSEN/DONNA HON

06 NOV 08 - THURSDAY

AIR AMERICAN AIRLINES FLT:5073 ECONOMY
OPERATED BY AMERICAN EAGLE/EXECUTIVE
LV ST CROIX 1100A EQP: ATR72 TURBOPROP
42MIN
NON-STOP

AR SAN JUAN PR 1142A

ARRIVE: TERMINAL D
CHRISTENSEN/DON SEAT-1B AA-Y3R5588

AIR AMERICAN AIRLINES FLT:5032 ECONOMY
OPERATED BY AMERICAN EAGLE/EXECUTIVE
LV SAN JUAN PR 1235P EQP: ATR72 TURBOPROP
01HR 07MIN
NON-STOP

AR ST MAARTEN 142P
CHRISTENSEN/DON SEAT-2C AA-Y3R5588

*****CARIB NEWS *****
10/27- AIRFARE 381.50 ONE WAY COACH. THE 5 PERCENT
DISCOUNT FROM THE CONTRACT HAS BEEN APPLIED.
THANKS,
DONNA
ELECTRONIC TICKET
10/27 - ATTN PAT - CONGRESSWOMAN'S HUSBAND NOT ATTENDING.

PASSENGER TICKET AND BAGGAGE CHECK
ELECTRONIC TICKET
PASSENGER RECEIPT 100.1 US
27 OCT 08 090212
ST CROIX
SAN JUAN PR
ST MAARTEN
NOT VALID FOR TRAVEL
00112184722126 001 2190158857 2

STAPLE HERE ATB2
Do not expose to moisture heat or direct sunlight
INSERT
367.00
AY 8.00
XA 5.00
XE 4.50
384.50

American Airlines

⁹⁸ Memorandum of Interview of Delegate Donna Christensen (May 4, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-3698 0032).

⁹⁹ Memorandum from Carib News Foundation to Representatives Rangel, Thompson, Payne and Kilpatrick and Delegate Christensen (Nov. 18, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-3698 0012).

¹⁰⁰ Flight Reservation for Delegate Donna Christensen (Oct. 27, 2008) (Exhibit 24 at 09-3698 0288).

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

7 west 36th street				
new york, 10018				
Confirmation Number:	TC2TDF	Agent Number:	6535	
Booking Date:	27Oct08	Booked By:	Afeesha	
ITINERARY: MRS. D CHRISTENSEN				
Date	Flt	Depart	Arrive	Stops
Sat 08Nov08	550	SXM - ST.MAARTEN 12:10pm	SPT - ST.THOMAS 12:55PM	0
Fare and Charges Detail:				
Total For 01 guest(s)		Fare:	112.00	
		Passenger Facility Charge:	7.00	
		Airport Development Tax:	5.00	
		Airport Authority Taxes:	9.35	
		Airport Passenger Taxes:	30.00	
		Fuel & Insurance Surcharge:	34.50	
		Total:	\$197.85	
Payment(s):		Master Card:	\$197.85-	
		Balance Due:	\$0.00	
NOTE - Terms & Conditions				

106. In her interview with the OCE, Delegate Christensen stated that she saw her airline ticket. Although she did not recall seeing a hotel bill, she remembered checking into the hotel. She also stated that she probably received a bill when she checked out because she was responsible for any incidental expenses.¹⁰¹ Delegate Christensen's scheduler filled out the post-travel forms. Delegate Christensen did not know where her scheduler got the information that appeared on the form but assumed she knew how much the hotel cost.¹⁰²

V. Carib News Foundation, as a Private Foundation, Was Prohibited From Paying for Delegate Christensen's Travel

107. The Carib News Foundation is identified as the "sponsor" of this conference on at least three forms filed with the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct: (1) the "Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form,"; (2) the "Privately Sponsored Travel: Travel Form," and; (3) the "Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form."¹⁰³

108. According to a query of the New York State's Office of the Secretary of State, Mr. Rodney appears to operate two organizations – the "Carib News, Inc" which operates a newspaper and the "Carib News Charities, Inc" which also may operate under the name "Carib News Foundation." The OCE has not been able to identify any additional activity, other than the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, in which the latter organization is involved. Furthermore, while "Carib News Charities, Inc" / "Carib News

¹⁰¹ Memorandum of Interview of Delegate Donna Christensen (May 4, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-3698 0031).

¹⁰² *Id.* at 09-3698 0032

¹⁰³ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Delegate Donna M. Christensen (Dec. 22, 2008) (Exhibit 1).

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Foundation” is listed with New York’s Office of the Secretary of State as a domestic not-for-profit corporation, it is not listed, as required by law, with the New York State Charities Bureau. In addition, there is no evidence that the organization has filed a tax return with the IRS, under either name, since 2005.¹⁰⁴ According to Publication 78 of the IRS, a list of all charities claiming 501(c) status, Carib Charities, Inc is a private foundation.¹⁰⁵

109. Every organization that qualifies for tax exemption described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code is defined as a private foundation unless the organization falls into one of the categories specifically excluded from the definition under section 509(a).¹⁰⁶ In effect, the definition divides 501(c)(3) organizations into two classes: private foundations and public charities. Private foundations are generally funded through a single donor, family or corporation and operate through investment income; whereas, public charities are typically funded and operated through diversified support from governmental sources and the general public.

110. There are several restrictions that are placed on private foundations. At issue here is the restriction on “self-dealing” between a disqualified person (the definition of which includes Members of Congress) and a private foundation.¹⁰⁷ The Code defines the act of “self-dealing” to include any direct or indirect agreement to make any payment of money (including reimbursement of expenses) or other property by a private foundation to a government official.¹⁰⁸ Although framed as a tax provision, the statute essentially bars certain federal employees and federally elected officials from receiving compensation, including reimbursements for international travel, from a private foundation.¹⁰⁹

111. As such, it appears that the Carib News Foundation’s payment of travel expenses for Representative Kilpatrick and her acceptance of payment potentially violated the Internal Revenue Code.

¹⁰⁴ Letter from IRS to OCE (Apr. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 8).

¹⁰⁵ Online Version of Publication 78 (Accessed online on June 5, 2009 at <http://www.irs.gov/app/pub-78/>) (Exhibit 8 at 09-3698 0119.1-0119.2).

¹⁰⁶ 26 U.S.C. §§ 501 and 509.

¹⁰⁷ 26 U.S.C. §§ 4941 and 4946.

¹⁰⁸ 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(1)(F). The Code imposes a tax (currently 10 percent of the amount involved) on the illegal payments, with later penalties (up to \$20,000 per act of self-dealing) for failure to pay back the foundation. The tax is imposed on the disqualified person, including a government official if the official participates in the act of self-dealing knowingly.

¹⁰⁹ The payment or reimbursement of travel expenses for travel solely from one point in the United States to another point in the United States is excepted from the definition of self-dealing provided that the payment or reimbursement does not exceed the actual cost of the transportation involved and provided the amount for all other traveling expenses does not exceed 125 percent of the maximum amount payable under section 5702 of title 5, United States Code, for like travel by employees of the United States. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(2)(G)(vii).

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

112. The Board infers from the fact that the Standards Committee approved the reimbursement that the Standards Committee is unaware of this restriction. The Board notes, however, that its own research revealed that numerous other ethics-related entities in the federal government are aware of this restriction, and have for some time been enforcing it.¹¹⁰
113. The Board notes that these facts show failures at multiple points by multiple parties in complying with and enforcing the travel rules. Inaccurate information was provided by the Carib News Foundation to Members and the Standards Committee. Delegate Christensen certified inaccurate information to the Standards Committee and failed to disclose the number of family members accompanying her. The counsel to the former Chair of the Standards Committee intervened in the review process in a way that both frustrated the process in 2007 and set a pattern of obfuscation that continued in 2008. Finally, the Standards Committee appears unaware of limitations on the ability of private foundations to pay for overseas travel by Members.
114. For all these reasons, the Board concludes further review of this matter by the Standards Committee is appropriate.

¹¹⁰ Memorandum from Ethics Counsel at the National Institutes of Health to Deputy Ethics Counsels at NIH (Jun. 2, 2000) (Exhibit 25 at 09-3698 0291).

EXHIBIT 1

7/11/08 11:32

Original Amendment

U.S. House of Representatives
110th Congress

MEMBER / OFFICER
POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties. You need not disclose government-funded or political travel on this form, or travel that is unrelated to official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report all privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual Financial Disclosure Statement. In accordance with clause 3 of House Rule 25, complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, E-106 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed. The Clerk is to make these forms available to the public as soon as possible after they are received.

1. Name of Traveler: Donna M. Christensen

2. a. Name of Accompanying Family Member (if any): None

b. Relationship to Member/Officer: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____

3. a. Date of Departure and Date of Return: 11/6 to 11/8

b. Dates at personal expense (if any): None

4. Itinerary (cities of departure - destination - return): St. Croix - St. Maarten - St. Thomas

5. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): Carib News Foundation

6. Describe meetings and events attended (attach additional pages if necessary): See attached

7. Attached to this form are EACH of the following (signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box):

a. the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form completed by trip sponsor, including all attachments;

b. the Traveler Form completed by the Member or officer; and

c. the Committee on Standards' letter approving my participation on this trip.

8. a. I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the sponsor's agenda. (Signify that statement is true by checking box):

b. If not, explain: _____

CHRISTENSEN

9. TRIP EXPENSES: Obtain actual dollar amounts from the sponsor. If exact dollar amounts are unavailable by the due date, provide a good faith estimate and file an amended form once the correct amounts are received.

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses
For Member or Officer:	\$410.00	\$270.00	Included in lodging
For accompanying family member:			

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Specific Nature of Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For Member or Officer:	\$175.00	Ground transportation & registration fee
For accompanying family member:		

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER:

[Handwritten Signature]

DATE:

12/18/08

Version date 9/2008 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Washington, DC 20515

October 16, 2008

The Honorable Donna Christenson
U.S. House of Representatives
1510 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct hereby approves your proposed trip for you and your spouse to St. Maarten, N.A. scheduled for November 6 to 8, 2008 sponsored by the Carib News Foundation.

You must complete a Member Travel Disclosure Form and file it with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are required to attach a copy of this letter and the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form, including attachments. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$335 from a single source on Schedule VII of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act, gifts "of minimal value [currently \$335] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of \$335 received by you or your spouse from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

However, we would note that since this trip is scheduled to commence after the general election on November 4, 2008 and because officially-connected travel must be related to official duties, it may be questionable whether a Member who was not reelected in the general election should to accept an invitation for a trip that is fact-finding in nature. Arguably, as of that time, the official responsibilities that may justify the acceptance of travel expenses for such a purpose will have come to an end. This consideration generally will not limit the Committee's authority to approve travel of a departing Member to participate substantially in an officially-related event (for example, to give a speech). Please keep this guidance in mind, as you may need to reevaluate your ability to participate in the trip following the election.

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

- CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): _____
 2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
 3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
 4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
 5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): BASED ON COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE WHICH IMPACTS US/CARIBBEAN RELATIONS ON WHICH THE MEMBER SERVES.
 6. Dates of travel: NOVEMBER 8-9, 2008
 7. Cities of departure - destination - return: VARIES - DEPENDING ON MEMBER
 8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
 9. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
 10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
 - a. One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered:
 If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (* SEE ATTACHED)

13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: THE INTEREST OF CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION IS TO PROMOTE, INFORM, TRADE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE U.S AND THE CARIBBEAN

14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted: REGULAR SCHEDULED AIR SERVICE, ECONOMY CLASS

15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):

16. I represent that either (check one of the following):
a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: or
b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation:
If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____

17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: SEE ATTACHED

18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: SONESTA MAHO BEACH RESORT

19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$110.00

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: HAS APPROPRIATE MEETING ROOMS

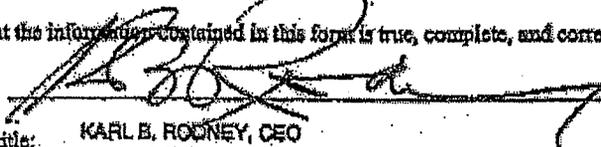
21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	410	280	145
For each accompanying family member	410	0	145

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee		
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

Address: 7 WEST 36th STREET, 8th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

Telephone number: (212) 944-1981

Fax number: (212) 944-2088

Email Address: CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. House of Representatives
HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-7103 (phone)
(202) 225-7392 (general fax)
(202) 225-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL: TRAVELER FORM
For Members, Officers and Employees
(submit directly to the Committee)

This form should be completed by House Members, officers or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule XXV, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer or employee, together with the completed and signed Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form.

Members, officers and employees seeking approval for travel are urged to submit all forms to the Committee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. A copy of this form will be made available for public inspection. Please type form. Form (and any attachments) may be faxed to the Committee at (202) 225-7392.

1. Name of Member, officer or employee (traveler): DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN
2. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
3. Travel destination(s): SAINT MAARTEN, NETHERLAND ANTILLES
4. a. Dates of travel: NOV 6, 2008 to NOVEMBER 8, 2008
b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense? Yes No
If yes, dates at personal expense: _____
5. a. Name of accompanying family member (if any): _____
b. Relationship to Member/Officer: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
6. a. Did the trip sponsor answer "yes" to Question 9(o) on the Trip Sponsor form (i.e., the travel is being sponsored by an entity that employs a lobbyist)? Yes No
b. If yes, check one of the following:
(1) Approval for one-night's lodging and meals is being requested: or
(2) Approval for two-nights' lodging and meals is being requested:
If "(2)" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____
7. Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments (indicate that form is attached by checking box):

8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to your official or representational duties: THE MEMBER'S CONSTITUENCY CONSISTS OF PERSONS FROM THE GREATER CARIBBEAN WHO NOW RESIDES IN THE VIRGIN ISLANDS, AND HAVE AN INTEREST IN KEEPING CONNECTED THROUGH BUSINESS + EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

9. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): _____

For staff, name of employing Member/Committee: _____

Office address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

NOTE: You must complete the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need contact you if additional information is required.

**FOR STAFF:
TO BE COMPLETED BY YOUR EMPLOYING MEMBER:**

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

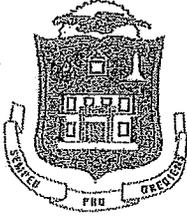
Signature of Employing Member

Date: _____

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. House of Representatives
HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-7103 (phone)
(202) 225-7392 (fax)

Version date 9/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct



Government of Sint Maarten

Sarah Wescot-Williams, M.Sc.

Telephone:
(599) 543-1166

Fax:
(599) 542-4292

E-mail:
comed@sintmaarten.net

St. Maarten, August 28, 2008

Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
U.S House of Representatives
1510 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-1790
Fax: 202-225-5517

Honorable Congresswoman Christensen,

The well-known Carib News Foundation has once more chosen our island, St. Maarten, as venue for its 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference scheduled to be held from November 6 – 9, 2008 at the Sonesta Maho Beach Resort & Casino. The conference is being held under the theme: "A Region in Transition – Strategy for Change, Alliance for Progress".

We are thrilled to host this very important and prestigious conference and it is my distinct pleasure, on behalf of the government and people of St. Maarten, to invite you personally to be part of this gathering which we hope would, as its theme suggests, map out a strategy for change and a reinvigorated alliance for progress during this period of obvious transition in U.S.–Caribbean relations.

St. Maarten, widely known as The Friendly Island, is not a typical sun-sea-and-sand destination in the Caribbean, but perhaps the most unique and cosmopolitan island in the region, given its size and its rich cultural diversity.

Considered the "culinary capital of the Caribbean," St. Maarten was ranked third in the world and first in the Caribbean in this year's inaugural TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice Destinations Awards. It is an honor that we cherish very much since the choice was made among millions of "real travelers" who know the vacation destinations the best.

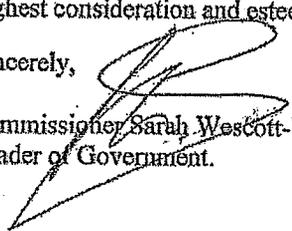
The Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference offers you a fine opportunity to combine business with pleasure on our island with a wide variety of activities, a pulsating nightlife, absolutely duty-free shopping, and 37 beautiful beaches to choose from.

Similarly, our vibrant investment climate offers numerous opportunities for investors in an atmosphere of peace and stability.

I am personally looking forward to welcoming you to our island, and assure you that we will do everything within our power to make your stay a very memorable and pleasant experience.

May I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem.

Sincerely,


Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams,
Leader of Government.



CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018
TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL: INFO@CARIBNEWSCONFERENCE.COM

June 25, 2008

Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
U.S House of Representatives
1510 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Christensen:

Thanks so much for your leadership and support for the Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference. Once again, we welcome your role in encouraging your colleagues to attend and to assist in framing the conference Theme and Focus.

As you know, the Conference was created to provide a forum for businesses, organizations and individuals from the United States to dialogue and learn more of the unique relationship and regional issues of common interest with the Caribbean Region.

This year the Conference will be held in St. Maarten, N.A. from November 6 - 9, 2008. In cooperation with the Government of St. Maarten, our goal is to have all interested parties joining forces to foster an atmosphere of democracy, stability and opportunity for our fellow citizens of the world. It will also allow businesses in the United States to introduce their products to a new market, thus adding to the economy of both countries.

We respectfully request your presence, your participation and continued leadership. We will work with your staff to work out the details and as usual, we will ask your staff to co-ordinate with your Colleagues.

Thanks so much for all you do in support of the region and the conference.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Very Truly Yours

Faye A. Rodney
President

Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

cc. Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation



CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018
TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL: INFO@CARIBNEWSCONFERENCE.COM

TO : Congresswoman Donna Christensen
FROM : Karl B. Rodney
DATE : November 18, 2008

SUBJECT : Business Conference Travel Information

The following is the breakdown of the value for the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference held in St. Maarten, N.A. from November 6 - 9, 2008.

Airfare	-	\$410.00	
Hotel	-	\$270.00	(Nov. 6 & 7)
Registration/	-	\$175.00	
Transportation			

Total amount of package = \$ 855.00

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C-3 corporation



Carib News Foundation

7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018

Tel: (212) 944-9999; Fax: (212) 944-2089

E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Item #17

A Caribbean country whose proximity to other Caribbean Countries makes it conveniently located for delegates from the other Caribbean countries to attend.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Registration Form - Please Read Carefully

SAINT MAARTEN . NOVEMBER 6TH TO 9TH 2008

Before you begin your application, you may want to gather your supplementary documentation so that you have it handy to fill in the information required in the online form. You must complete all sections of this application form except for, in some cases, section 4 (Transportation). After you have entered your data and click 'Submit' you will receive a confirmation email within 24 hours. For more information please contact NY Carib News at 212-944-1991.

Step One - Applicant Profile

Please provide the following contact information.

Form fields for personal information: Last Name (Christiansen), First Name (Donna), E-mail Address (shelley.thomas@mail.house.g...), Business Name (U.S. House of Representatives), Business Address (1510 Longworth), Type of Business, Home Phone, Mobile Phone, Business Phone (202-225-1780), Business Fax (202-225-2051), Business Address (cont.), City (Washington), State (DC), Zip (20515), Area of Interest (Health).

Step Two Part A - Accommodation (Standard Rooms) Choose Either Standard or Suite

Please choose an accommodation package, if you choose the double occupancy option, we ask that you provide the name of the person you will be rooming with while staying at the Sonesta Maho Beach Hotel. Please use this opportunity to make any special requests such as extra nights.

Extra Night Rate For Standard Rooms - \$280 per night based on Double Occupancy and \$265 per night based on Single Occupancy. For information on accommodations outside of provided packages, please contact us directly.

Form fields for Step Two Part A: Single Occupancy Packages (Standard Accommodation - Single), Double Occupancy (Standard Accommodation - Double), Rooming with... (Christilan Christensen), Sports (Golf, Large).

Step Two Part B - Accommodation (Suite Rooms - Limited Availability) Choose Either Standard or Suite

Please choose an accommodation package, if you choose the double occupancy option, we ask that you provide the name of the person you will be rooming with while staying at the Sonesta Maho Beach Hotel. Please use this opportunity to make any special requests such as extra nights.

Extra Night Rate For Suite Rooms - \$250 per night based on Double Occupancy and \$225 per night based on Single Occupancy. For information on accommodations outside of provided packages, please contact us directly.

Form fields for Step Two Part B: Single Occupancy Packages (Suite Accommodation - Single), Double Occupancy (Suite Accommodation - Double), Rooming with..., Sports (Golf, Small).

Step Three - Transportation

In order for us to arrange your ground transportation, it's required that we have your flight information.

Form fields for Step Three: Airlines, Flight Number, Departure City, Departure Date (11/09/2008), Departure Time, Arrival Time, Return Flight Number, Return City, Return Date (11/09/2008), Return Departure Time, Return Arrival Time.

STEP 4: PAYMENT

Please enter your credit card information, then click on 'Submit Registration' to complete your online registration, wait a few seconds and you will be taken to a confirmation page. If you are paying by check, print this page and mail to NY Carib News with your check enclosed.

Form fields for Step 4: Form of Payment (Credit Card), Credit Card Number, Name on Card, Credit Card Type (Visa), Expiration Date (mm/dd/yyyy), Credit Card PIN# (what is this?).

After you complete the Registration form, please double check your information. If you have any questions, please call us directly 212-944-1991.

Submit

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INVITED TO THE
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS
CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 6-9, 2008, ST. MAARTEN, N.A.

Congresswoman Diane E. Watson
Congressman David Scott
Congressman James Clyburn
Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez
Congressman Charles Rangel
Congressman Donald Payne
Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
Congressman Edolphus Towns
Congressman G. K. Butterfield
Congressman Gregory Meeks
Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.
Congressman Keith Ellison
Congressman Kendrick Meek
Congresswoman Maxine Waters
Congressman Melvin Watt
Congressman Robert Scott
Congressman William Lacy Clay
Congresswoman Barbara Lee
Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
Congresswoman Corrine Brown
Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
Congressman Danny Davis
Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs-Jones
Congressman Bennie Thompson

July 2008

13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
St. Maarten, N.A.

**THEME: A REGION IN TRANSITION - STRATEGY FOR
CHANGE - BUILDING ALLIANCES**

Thursday, November 6, 2008

12:00noon- 6:00pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -

5:00 - 6:30 - TOWN HALL FORUM - HEALTH

Innovative Solutions for Life styles
Diseases- a Collaborative Approach - Diabetes,
Hypertension, Obesity, Oral Health

Speakers - Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister, St. Kitts and Nevis
Mrs. Karen Boykin-Towns
Sir George Alleyne, Chancellor UWI
Hon Diane Watson, Member of US Congress
Health Commissioner, St. Maarten
Hon. Jesse Jackson Jr., Member of US Congress

6:30-7:30pm - OPENING RECEPTION

Venue: - POOLSIDE

Theme: - A REGION IN TRANSITION -

Speakers: - Faye A. Rodney
Hon. Roy Marlin - Commissioner for Tourism - St. Maarten
Hon. Yvette Clarke, Member of Congress

MC: - Sabrina Hosang - Royal Caribbean Bakery

7:30 - 9:30 pm - OPENING DINNER

Venue: - Main Ballroom

Theme: - *STRATEGY FOR CHANGE*

Greetings:

Speakers: - Dame Billie Miller

Hon. Donald Payne, Member US Congress

Hon. Nick Perry, New York State Assembly

Hon. G.K. Butterfield, Member of Congress

10:00pm - 1:00am: - HOSPITALITY AREA

Friday, November 7, 2008

8:00am - 8:45am - (BREAKFAST)

9:00am - 6:00pm CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

9:00am - 10:15am - OPENING CEREMONIES

Venue: - Main Ballroom

Theme: - *BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR PROGRESS*

Invocation: - Rev. Susan Johnson=Cook

Anthems: - St. Maarten
Lift Every Voice

Remarks: - Eric Eve
Karen Boykin-Towns
Marie Long
Ed Goldberg
Hazel Dukes

Speakers: - Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member
US Congress
Hon. Melvin Watt, Member of US Congress
Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader
of Government, St.Maarten

Keynote Speaker - Hon. Charles Rangel -Member US Congress

~~RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONIES~~

10:15am - 10:30am - COFFEE BREAK - Golden Krust

10:30am -11:45am - PRESENTATION

Theme: "Health – an Economic development Strategy
For the Region"

Speakers: - Hon. Donna Christensen, Member US Congress
Hon. Barbara Lee, Member US Congress
Dr. Carl Kenel-Pierre, Preferred Health Partners
Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister St.Kitts/Nevis
Hon. Yvonne Graham

10:30 – 11.45 - **PRESENTATION**

Theme - "Access to Capital – Creative and unique
Financial packages"

Speakers - Michele Chow Tai, HSBC Bank
Hon. Adolfo Carrion, Bronx Borough President
William Lacy Clay, Member of US Congress
Hon. Compton Bourne, President, CDB
Commissioner of Finance, St. Maarten
Hon. Keith Ellison, Member US Congress

12:00noon – 1:15pm - **PRESENTATION**

Theme: - **TRAVEL & TOURISM –**
Need for a Competitive Transportation Network
Emerging Tourism Market
Health Tourism

- Greeting:** - Dale Morris
- Speakers:** - Hon. Gregory Meeks, Member of US Congress
 Hon. Allan Chastanet, Minister of Tourism, St. Lucia
 Hon. Roy Marlin, Commissioner of Tourism,
 St. Maarten
 Hon. Bennie Thompson, Member of US Congress

12:00noon - 1:15pm

PRESENTATION

Theme - Technological Innovation - A Path to Economic
 Development

- Speakers:** - Marilyn Johnson
 Hon. Edolphus Towns, Member of US Congress
 Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson, Member US Congress
 Colin Ward
 Hon. Edolphus Towns, Member US Congress
 Commissioner of Technology, St. Maarten

1:30pm - 2:30pm

LUNCHEON

Venue: - Main Ballroom

Theme: - ***BUILDING A WINNING STRATEGY - PARTNERSHIPS
 THAT WORK***

- Speakers:** - Hon. Nick Perry, NYS Assembly
 Eric Eve
 Hon. Jesse Jackson, Member US Congress

Keynote Speaker - **Hon. David Paterson, Governor New York State**

3:00pm - 4:00pm

Round Table #1 - **NEXT GENERATION -**
Business Retention and Expansion

Speakers - **Sabrina HoSang**
Lita Balram
Karlisa Rodney
Hon. Yvette Clarke, Member of US Congress
Hon. Kendrick Meek, Member of US Congress

Round Table #2 - **LOCAL BUSINESS INITIATIVES -**
Opportunities with US Companies

Speakers : - **Ed Goldberg**
Eric Eve
Cheryl Monroe
Albert Brown
Hon. Nydia Velazquez, Member US Congress
Member of Congress

Round Table #3 - **HEALTH -**
QUALITY HEALTH CARE
HIV/AIDS Programs in the Region

4:30pm - 6:00pm

TOWN HALL FORUM - EDUCATION

Speakers:

Dr. Edison O. Jackson

Patrick Gaston

Hon. Sarah Wescot-Williams, Commissioner of Education, St. Maarten

Hon. Danny Davis, Member of US Congress

Hon. Barbara Lee, Member of US Congress

Professor Rex Nettleford, UWI

Venue:

6.30:00pm - 7:30pm

HOST COUNTRY EVENING

Venue:

TBD by St. Maarten

Theme

TBD by St. Maarten

MC:

Speakers:

ST. MAARTEN PROGRAM

7:30 - 8:00 pm:

8:00pm - 10:30 pm.

Venue :

Theme

ST. MAARTEN PROGRAM

Speakers:

Hon. David Scott, Member of US Congress

Hon. Stephanie Tubbs-Jones, Member of Congress

10:00pm - 1:00am

HOSPITALITY AREA

Venue:

Saturday, November 8, 2008

8:00am - 10:00am

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

WOMEN OF INFLUENCE AND POWER

Venue:

Main Ballroom

Speakers:

Hon. Stephanie Tubbs-Jones, Member US. Congress

Hon. Maxine Waters, Member US Congress

Hon. Sheila Jackson-Lee, Member US Congress

Hon. Barbara Lee, Member US Congress

Brenda Scott

Marilyn Johnson

Hon. Sarah Wescot-Williams

Rev. Dr. Susan Johnson-Cook

(List in development)

10:15am - 11:45am

PRESENTATION - EDUCATION

A Collaboration with US Institution *Thinkfinity*

UWI/Medgar Evers College Initiatives

Speakers:

Dr. Edison Jackson

Patrick Gaston

Hon. Yvette Clarke, Member US Congress

Hon. Danny Davis, Member of Congress

10:15am - 11:45am

- PRESENTATION - AGRICULTURE

**A New Emphasis in the Region - Can it Survive
Globalization.**

Chair & Greetings:

Speakers:

Hon. David Scott, Member US Congress

Hon. Gregory Meeks, Member US Congress

11:00am - 1:00pm

All Members of Congress are requested to attend

**Closed Door Meeting with Prime Ministers,
Ministers of Government of the Caribbean,
Commissioners, to review US/Caribbean Relations**

12:00noon - 1:15pm

- PRESENTATION - TRADE & INVESTMENT

Retooling for Growth

Community Capitalism

Speakers:

Hon. Maxine Waters, Member US Congress

Hon. Nydia Velazquez, Member US Congress

Panelists:

12:00 noon - 1:15pm

- PRESENTATION

Theme

**Hemispheric Security - Ports/Airports -
Crime - Drugs - Disaster**

Speakers

- Hon. Bennie Thompson, Member of US Congress**
- Theo Heylerger - Commissioner of Ports, St. Maarten**
- Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member US Congress**
- Hon. Lance Ogiste, Brooklyn District Attorney**
- Dr. Basil Wilson**
- Hon. Keith Ellison, Member of US Congress**

1:30pm - 2:30 pm

LUNCHEON

Theme:

CARIBBEAN - A SOLID INVESTMENT

Speakers

- Hon. Charles Ranel, Member of US Congress**
- Hon. William Thompson, NYC Comptroller**
- Dr. Compton Bourne, President CDB**
- Dr Enrique Riggs**
- Javier Evans**

Round Table #1

EDUCATION

Speakers

Hon. Danny Davis, Member of US Congress

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson, Member US Congress

Round Table#2:

IMMIGRATION

Hon. Maxine Waters, Member US Congress

Hon. Sheila Jackson-Lee, Member of US Congress

Dr. Marco Mason

Round Table#3:

HAITI - HOPE II - Diaspora Initiatives

Hon. Charles Rangel, Member of US Congress

Hon. Kendrick Meek, Member of US Congress

Round Table# 4

MICRO FINANCING - CONFERENCE GENERATED

Laura Blackburne

Hon. Keith Ellison, Member of US Congress

Lucille McEwen

Michael Flanigan

4:30 pm - 6:00pm

TOWN HALL FORUM - TECHNOLOGY

Venue:

Speakers

- Marie Long
- Marilyn Johnson
- Colin Ward
- Al Brown
- Hon. Corrine Brown, Member of Congress
- Hon. James Clyburn, Member of Congress
- Commissioner on Technology

6:30 - 7:30pm

- **GALA RECEPTION**

Speakers

- Hon. James Clyburn, Member of US. Congress

7:30pm - 10:00pm

- **GALA DINNER & AWARDS PRESENTATION**

Speaker

- Hon. Charles Rangel, Member of US Congress

Hon. Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Government
Business

AWARDS PRESENTATION

ENTERTAINMENT

10:30pm - 1:00am

HOSPITALITY AREA

Venue:

Sunday, November 9, 2008

8:30 am -- 10:00am - **POWER BREAKFAST**

Theme: - **SPIRITUALITY - THE BASICS IN BUSINESS**

Speakers - **Rev. Susan Johnson Cook**

Ed Goldberg

Lowell Hawthorne

Selection: - **Local Choir**

August 14, 2008

EXHIBIT 2

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Delegate Donna Christensen
Review #: 09-3698; 09-2222; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-6333
Date: May 4, 2009
Location: 1510 Longworth HOB, Washington, DC
Participants: Leo Wise
Beth Horton

Summary: Delegate Christensen attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference. We requested an interview with Ms. Christensen and she consented. Delegate Christensen was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and she signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. Ms. Christensen made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. She attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008.
2. The conference was held in St. Maarten.
3. She arrived in St. Maarten on the Thursday after the election and remained in St. Maarten through the following Saturday.
4. She has had a long relationship with the Carib News Foundation and she introduced the topic of healthcare at the 2008 conference. She is always invited to participate at the conference.
5. Carib News sponsored the conference.
6. She attended a town meeting when she arrived at the conference.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

7. The Rodneys owned the Carib News paper.
8. She assumed the Foundation arm is not unlike other companies not-for-profit arms.
9. She was invited to the conference via letter, but is not aware who signed the letter. Carl and Faye Rodney would have been responsible for inviting her.
10. The government of St. Maarten participates with the Foundation in holding the conference and the government hosts a reception and welcomes participants at the opening. The head of the government speaks at discussions with other heads of government and arranges some type of cultural performance, such as a children's choir.
11. As far as she knew, Carib News sponsored the conference.
12. She understood that the sponsor would be responsible for setting up the hotel, organizing the agenda for the conference, and inviting individuals to participate.
13. The Foundation paid the expenses for the conference.
14. When asked if the Foundation paid all of the expenses, Ms. Christensen asked if the answer was in the record; she was told by Mr. Wise that the board has the post disclosure report. She stated that the Foundation paid for travel and hotel expenses and general activities at the conference that conference participants attended.
15. She saw her airline ticket.
16. She did not recall seeing a hotel bill but she remembered checking into the hotel and stated that she probably received a bill when she checked out because she was responsible for any incidental expenses.
17. She did not know if the government of St. Maarten paid for her hotel room.
18. She paid for one breakfast herself and recalled that the hotel was an all-inclusive hotel and that all other meals were part of the conference. She further stated that the government of St. Maarten paid for a reception, which included food, and that she attended the reception.
19. She attended a dinner on Thursday night which she assumed the cost of was paid by the Foundation.
20. Shelly Thomas handled all of her travel arrangements.

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21. The Foundation booked her travel with Shelly's help. The Foundation would have arranged the airline ticket because the organization had its own travel agent.
22. She stayed at the hotel Thursday and Friday night and that she stayed in a standard room. She recalls that there was a desk in the room and a balcony but she doesn't recall there being more than one room.
23. Her husband did not attend the conference.
24. All travel is arranged with Shelly Thomas. She tells Shelly when she can travel.
25. The Foundation handled travel approval directly through the ethics committee and she and Shelly handled post travel reports.
26. Shelly filled out the post-travel form and that she signed the form. It is her signature on the form.
27. She guessed that Shelly knew the hotel cost but that she did not know where the information for the reported dollar amounts came from. She stated that when she registers at conferences, most places provide the cost of the room.
28. She stated that the office attended the CBC training.
29. The handwriting on the post-travel report looked like her handwriting but she was not sure, she believed that Shelly filled out the form.
30. She believed that she received a letter that included the post-travel information, including the dates of travel. She believed that the Standards Committee would have approved the trip prior to her receiving the invitation.
31. She may have seen the private sponsor certification form, she believed that she would have seen it because she could not have attended without clearance from the Standards Committee.
32. She did not believe that she had any direct contact with the Standards Committee as Shelly was the only person who dealt with the conference.
33. When asked if there were any issues with the 2007 conference in Antigua, Ms. Christensen didn't believe there had been but she was not certain.
34. She stated that she asked other Members if they would be attending the conference.

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35. She does not recall receiving approval from the Standards Committee for the 2007 conference.
36. She has not met with Standards regarding any travel matter.
37. She had asked other Members at a CBC meeting if they would be attending the conference and she reminded those that would be attending to get their paperwork to the Standards Committee on time for trip approval.
38. She did not speak with any Members of the Standards Committee regarding the conference except for Representative Stephanie Tubbs Jones. She only spoke with Representative Tubbs Jones because she herself was attending the conference.
39. She stated that Representative Tubbs Jones counsel, Dawn Kelly Mobley, may have attended a meeting where she was present and that she may have brought information to explain what the Members could and couldn't do under the new rules.
40. She did not recall any one-on-one conversations about the '08 or 07 conference.
41. She arrived at the conference on Thursday and recalls seeing the banner that listed the conference sponsors. It appeared in all rooms.
42. When asked what the role of the corporate sponsors was at the conference, Ms. Christensen stated that they contributed to the Foundation.
43. She stated that she did not know what made the Foundation the sponsor, she was not aware of that type of detail. Most of the companies have some type of sponsorship at the conference. She did not know if they gave directly to the Foundation or to the Conference. The sponsors generally greet participants and participate in the introduction and at the reception.
44. The definition of sponsor had been explained to her, not in reference to the '08 conference but in general it was explained to her. She recalled discussing what she generally could and couldn't attend.
45. She attended the dinner on Thursday but does not recall if Representative Payne thanked the sponsors.
46. Representative Payne generally talks about issues that he is involved in when speaking at the conference.

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47. She spoke at the conference and at the Town Hall meeting. She also participated in another panel but the Town Hall was her main involvement. And she attended the opening session.
48. She recalled Representative Kilpatrick speaking at the conference but she did not recall any specific remarks.
49. She was aware that the Foundation was the sponsor of the conference. It did not occur to her that the information on the pre-travel certification was incomplete.
50. She was not aware of how the expenses for the trip were paid, once the Standards Committee approved the trip then she knew she could go and didn't think any more of the trip sponsor.
51. She did not attend the closed door meeting.
52. She generally spoke about deportation and how it affects countries. Trade is also a large issue, and Haiti.
53. She did not receive any reports on any sessions at the conference, not in any formal way. She may have received something in '07 but she could not recall for sure.
54. She participated at the ribbon cutting at the '08 conference. Heads of government and the Rodneys also attended.
55. She recognized the photo that was taken at the ribbon cutting, she recognized her skirt in the picture. She knew the Macy's representative and Representative Kilpatrick, who were also in the photo, and thinks one of the individuals may have been the AT&T representative.
56. She did not meet with any of the co-sponsors, there was no specific meeting. The conference meetings have never been about company specific issues.
57. She attended other sessions at the conference, Representative Kilpatrick also attended one of the sessions that she attended.
58. She attended the opening ceremony, the health and economic sessions, the reception, the ribbon cutting, and the women's breakfast meeting. She can't recall if she attended the education session and she did not go to the hospitality area.
59. The Rodneys attended a luncheon/dinner on the Hill after the conference.

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60. She did not talk about the conference itself with the Rodneys, other than that she knew of the investigation.
61. At a Caribbean Caucus meeting she spoke with Representative Payne and Kilpatrick about the fact that they were all going through the investigation.
62. She talked with Representative Payne briefly, just in passing, noting that they did not like the new ethics rules.
63. Representative Kilpatrick shared a letter with her that she had been sent since they were both being investigated.
64. She did not have any in-depth conversations with any Members, the Members merely spoke about the fact that they were not happy about the investigation.
65. There were no discussions at any CBC meetings because they felt that they were not supposed to talk about the investigation.
66. She does not attend any events without receiving approval from the Standards Committee. After receiving approval, she does not ask any questions about who is paying the expenses. She assumes all questions have been asked and answered by the Standards Committee. So, nothing she saw at the conference would have raised any flags.
67. She believed that the Foundation is involved in various activities in NY but does not know of any specific activities.

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

Exhibit 3

TRANSCRIPT OF AUDIO FILE:

11-7 AM SESSION - FIRST 30 MIN

Thank you for working with Accentance for your transcription needs. The text below represents a professional transcriptionist's understanding of the words spoken. No guarantee of complete accuracy is expressed or implied, particularly regarding spellings of names and other unfamiliar or hard-to-hear words and phrases. "(ph)" or "(sp?)" indicate phonetics or best guesses. To verify important quotes, we recommend listening to the corresponding audio. Timestamps throughout the transcript facilitate locating the desired quote, using software such as Windows Media or QuickTime players.

BEGIN TRANSCRIPT:

KARL RODNEY: ...Mike Flanigan how through the year his division has been supportive of the Mission and the Conference. And so we want to say thanks to Citi. You'll be hearing from Mike later but it's a great team to have working and great partners. We have Pfizer and a big supporter of (inaudible) aspect. Karen Boykin-Towns is not here, she has been able to in the past eight years and there's a death in her family and so she's not here to begin. Through the years work had done in the Caribbean circle in the United States and then a special touch to our work that can be done not only on the delivery of health care but overall awareness. [0:01:00.4]

And over from Macy's and its very fine team has been innovative in outreach to various locations we've gone to, finding new vendors, developing new contacts and really helping to make the conference a success by engagement of our local participants. So Ed and Brenda are tremendous supporters and we're so delighted that they're here with us.

IBM and Marilyn Johnson, Marilyn is Vice-President of Market Development, responsible for strategic marketing for Black, Asian and Hispanic, Native American and Women. Marilyn's a dynamic partner and you'll be hearing from Marilyn also. You should be alerted that between Brenda and Marilyn tomorrow is Women's sessions is going to be something to talk about. [0:02:09.5]

Marie Long is here from ATT but ATT has supported the Conference all 13 years. We started with them. They made sure that the Vision, the Mission of the Conference is supported through the many years.

We have with us Mr. Pat Gaston. Mr. Gaston is the President of Verizon Foundation, one of the largest private foundations in the United States. And Mr. Gaston has made his mark in moving that foundation to be a force in education in the United States. We are delighted he is here to be with us and to introduce a wonderful program that has been very effective in the United States (inaudible) to see if there is potential here in the Caribbean. So, Patrick, we are delighted you are here and we look forward to your presentation. [0:03:14.9]

Preferred Health and a wonderful group of doctors, Dr. Valdez, Dr. Carl Kenel-Pierre, Dr. Kernisant, a group of doctors who have a network of centers through the United States but they also see and want to have that expanded to the Caribbean and also to bring a new kind of emphasis with respect to health tourism to the Caribbean and so they're here today also.

Dale Morris from American. American has been a partner with us for several years. Dale is expected to come in later on today but we want to acknowledge American and want to say "thanks".

Lloyd Williams from the Harlem Chamber of Commerce enough of his members are around and Lloyd has been supportive of this Conference from its inception and the Chamber has always been here with us and so we want to say "thanks" to Lloyd. [0:04:20.9]

Medgar Evers College under the dynamic leadership of President Edison O. Jackson has not only brought to the Caribbean a new vision of education, a new initiative with respect to men and empowerment but also the team that you see moving around they're from Medgar through the instrumentality of President Jackson working with us to document the Conference. It will be available too for a widespread distribution afterwards. So Medgar has been a true partner in making this Conference and this Mission work. [0:05:07.0]

Turner Construction, we have had a working relationship with Rev. Hilton Smith, he has attended several conferences and now he's with his colleague John Pierce to be a partner in the Mission of the Conference.

And, of course, the government of St. Maarten's under the dynamic leadership of leader Sarah Westcott-Williams and her dynamic team. We have always been working with - we always work with the leader and her dynamic group and we are just delighted at her own creative vision, her own determination and dynamic way of dealing with the Mission and dealing with the situation at hand. And we met with Commissioner Westcott-Williams and her team and she had a vision to suggest the theme of the Conference, time of transition, stretching for change and building the land session. So it was with that kind of background that we're here and to St. Maarten's we say, "Thank you very, very much." [0:06:31.4]

We have so many great partners that we shall hear from throughout the morning. We have through the Conventional Black Caucus and their members a set of agendas that have been accomplished, policies that have been achieved and programs that have been enhanced. And through the years they have been very effective when they have attended the Conferences our own (inaudible).

It was here at St. Maarten's six years ago that a group of hoteliers and vendors approached the members of our caucus to suggest that the Caribbean had been treated unfairly with respect to the duty-free allowance going into the United States. And it was within six months that it was changed through the effort of the members of the Black Caucus and so the Caribbean is better. And the Caribbean has benefited through millions of dollars of duty-free items that you know come through to the Caribbean.

It was also here in St. Maarten's that the issue of tax exemption for conferences held in the Caribbean was again brought to the attention of the members of the Congressional Black Caucus and again that was achieved within a year. [0:08:08.2]

And so we've seen that kind of work constantly throw it's really the conference. So we can try to serve real achievement in fact in this room there is a couple that came from Denver to Barbados for their first Conference and they have built a region wide distribution for ice cream and fast food. And this has grown considerably.

It was also through the Conference that a small technology company with the value of \$2 million came, got a contract and that company in two years became a \$12 million company. And we've seen that kind of connection throughout the Conference. We could point to Barbados where technology was enhanced with respect to ATT work with the local Barbadian telecommunication company. St. Croix the fiber optics center, Grenada an oil refinery, all coming up with the expertise of the Conference to the (inaudible). [0:09:30.7]

And so the Mission is there to continue, the Mission is there to enhance, the Mission is there for us to make it work particularly now when we see the change has come and we can now come together to pad the agenda and to look forward to this kind of strategy for change. And so we want to welcome you. We promise that our sessions are going to be interesting. We have some of the best speakers that you can find on the various topics. We're going to see more when we get together the support we can bring to each other. The support we can provide with respect to the met work and certainly when we go back in the Caribbean we can really see results. We can come together as a people. You've been a great Conference. Thanks so much for being here. God bless. [0:10:28.4]

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you Mr. Rodney and we also thank you Mrs. Rodney as well. With interest we're here on the wave of the man who campaigned about change and on this transition to change and also strategic alliances. And we hope that will happen for you while you're here. Mr. Vide mentioned all of the sponsors who were with us and the partners who helped to make this happen and we're going to hear from three of them at this time at this quarter, Michael Flanigan from Citibank (Citi) and Ed Goldberg, Senior Vice-President at Macy's and Community for the Relations, and Patrick Gaston the President of the Verizon Foundation. In that order we will receive them this morning as they come, please. (clapping) [0:11:15.6]

MICHAEL FLANIGAN: Good morning.

ALL: Good morning.

MICHAEL FLANIGAN: It's really a pleasure to be here. As you heard before, Eric is on his way so I have the great privilege and honor of putting in for Eric. But first just wanted to say "thank you" and again welcome to the 13th Annual Caribbean Business Conference. This year was significant for Citi. For the first time we are the lead sponsor of this premier event. But I would be remiss in not thanking the organizers and our hosts here at St. Maarten so to the

government, to the Commissioner Sarah Westcott-Williams, Governor Franklin Richards and Commissioner Roy Marlin and all the other elected officials here in St. Maarten and elected Congress members, appointed officials from the United States it's a pleasure to be here with you. [0:12:15.6]

We also of course have to thank the Rodney's as being 13 years in ensuring that this vision is carried out and delivered all across the Caribbean and I don't call to talk about some successes but I think one of the most important success that I think that I've experienced in coming to the Conference for the last six or seven years is just reunited with his great family. It's all about developing our communities. About we're all about the same thing, I think. We're all on the same page. We're all about the same agenda. And we're all about making sure that we absolutely care about each other, yourself but we care about the broader community. So it's always a pleasure to be here. I get re-energized every time I come. And so it's - I look forward to it - so it's one conference that I will never miss.

This Conference is an important gallery that makes a tangible contribution to dialog on the issues of important to communities. From recognizing the untapped wealth for underserved communities to building property alliances so that together we can build healthy, robust, organic economies. Today and tomorrow and even into Sunday are very important to that conversation at least to building a winning strategy to succeed in these turbulent economic times. I trust that we will all take full advantage of the great minds and the leaders that we are privileged to spend time with. I know my Citi bank black (inaudible) are ready. Thank you so much for having us here at Conference. (clapping) [0:13:58.2]

ED GOLDBERG: Good morning everyone.

ALL: Good morning.

ED GOLDBERG: As Mike said it's really a pleasure to be back with family today. We look forward to this Conference very year. Obviously, we hope that there will be many, many more over the years to come. I learned something from David Dinkins several years ago when you have a whole list of dignitaries in the house, the best thing to say is, "Present, protocol observed." So, Mr. Mayor, thank you for those kind words. (laughter)

Now a week and a half ago, Macy's celebrated its 150th anniversary. (clapping) When you think about anniversaries of companies today to believe that somebody could be around in the retail industry in particular for 150 years is quite an amazing feat. I'm sure that when R. H. Macy opened his store in lower Manhattan on 14th Street on October 28, 1858, he did not have the vision that the company some day; number one would last for 150 years; or that it would employ 225,000 people; or that they would do \$27 billion a year in business; or for being in 46 of our 50 states; and also the opportunity of having a business in 64 or 65 major markets in the United States. [0:15:30.9]

But today I'm hear to talk more about the Caribbean contract. The fact that we have been supportive of Carolyn Fay and this particular venture for the number of years but more importantly the fact that we come here to look for that spark that will ignite an opportunity to

find that next Martha Stewart; that next design; or that new product that's going to sell in our stores such as we've done with the Rwandan peace baskets and products like that. And I think it is really why our Mission is so important, it's not just a question of change, not just a question of transition but it's building those ties and looking for those opportunities. That I think will bring us closer together. [0:16:15.9]

There's no question that we all face difficult times but I believe that the Caribbean is our backdoor and the bottom line in opening for us for expansion. No, I don't think we can build 250,000 sq. ft. mall stores but Macy's has to learn in transition how do we conduct business in the Caribbean communities. And I think we're going to find that way and obviously this particular convention is one of those opportunities to do so.

You all know Brenda Scott, my wife, (laughter), Judy's back in the room sleeping so I can say that. But Brenda and I have been together for more than 20 years. We have obviously been very much involved in our communities where we do business and we still believe we have a long way to go. But our mission is being supported by a great Chairman, Terry Lundgren, and the people of Macy's, so obviously we look forward to developing these bridges and developing the relationships. And I hope that in the not too distant future, we will be talking about a Macy's store here in the Caribbean. So enjoy your convention. I hope I'll get a chance to talk to each and every one of you as the time goes by over the next couple of days. And again, thank you so much, Carolyn Fay for the great work that you do. (clapping) [0:17:32.9]

PATRICK GASTON: Good morning everyone.

ALL: Good morning.

PATRICK GASTON: Thank you, Karl, for the wonderful introduction. Thank you, Michael and Ed for these great remarks. I extend welcome from our CEO, Ivan Seidenberg, and our 225,000 employees, many of whom are from the Caribbean mason including me. I want to acknowledge my colleagues and members of the public sector, members of the community, and I also, I guess, want to respect present protocol. Okay, but I have to single out a couple people, right? So thank you to the leader of government Sarah Westcott-Williams for hosting us today and the great people of St. Maarten. It's a delight to be back here. This is my eighth time in St. Maarten and I may stay. (laughter) It's wonderful. I want to acknowledge Karl Rodney for his exceptional ability to bring people together to recognize the collaborations that are important for business development. He does so with the grace that I admire and it's the first time I've had the chance to be here with you, Karl. and it's an honor to be here and a privilege so thank you for inviting me. [0:19:06.0]

I want you all to recognize Rex Nettleford, I don't know if he's in the audience still. But Rex and I have known each other for about nine years when I first joined the Foundation of the University of West Indies Board of Directors. And one of the things that attracted me to the University in addition to Karl, of course, was that Rex was the kind of leader that reflected a lot of commitment and enthusiasm about education; something that I care deeply about. And over the years has provided me with his counsel and friendship and I thank you for that, Rex. (clapping)

You know, Verizon does not have a retail presence in the Caribbean and I hope some day we will. But we do provide global Internet networks that help to provide a lot of communications that you might experience here. So I think we're in the game and we realize the value of technology to ensure that folks have access to incubation and education. In my case at the Verizon Foundation, Karl mentioned that I head up the Verizon Foundation and our emphasis is on education. And what we're trying to do is deliver resources to teachers in the classroom that need it really badly. So we're developing contact and we're taking with our partners, we're taking that contact and making it available through our technology platforms so during the course of today in the discussions that we'll have, we'll talk about that resource. Which, by the way, is offered free of charge to teachers around this country and now around the globe, so we want to make sure that we present this resource as another thing that this community can use and use it in a way that's free. So I'm looking forward to this dialogue and am excited about this Conference and I thank you very much, Karl, for inviting us to hear quality. [0:21:06.2] (clapping)

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you very much. I loved language in school. I remember ottomottopea and phizz and those words and oxymoron, best of times, worst of times, homonyms, the words that sounded alike with different meanings but synonyms when you said the word you could understand what it meant. It was synonymous with something. So when we say the words, "front line", "civic leader", "activist", "Miss NAACP", "world leader". "you don't want to mess with her", you know it is synonymous with Hazel Dukes and we want to hear from her, our God, mother, our community, don't you think I'm right? (clapping) Miss NAACP, Miss Leader, our dignitary, let us receive this morning, the Honorable Hazel Dukes of New York City. Are there any New Yorkers in the house? (clapping) Let's get a little noise over here. All right.

HAZEL DUKES: Good morning.

ALL: Good morning.

HAZEL DUKES: This is my 12th Conference. Missed only one because I had a broken ankle and it was just like four weeks before the Conference, not even, be on the cast. But let me say to Fay and Karl that they have been the glue without the (inaudible). They are for us 24-7. Not only just in New York City but the Islands we have attempted. The NAACP will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in New York City where it was founded July 14 through July 17. Medgar Evers, the college, the university, the (inaudible) of the city of New York, when George Blackburn and I sit and watch TV and we hear all people go over their history, people forgot that it would not have been possible if it was not for those names, Medgar names known or so many others in Alabama for Rosie, decided to sit. So Maude could stand. Maude could not have stood if Rosie hadn't of sat. Rosie was the Secretary of the NAACP, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The Colored People come in all colors, when you make your beautiful salad you just don't want all greenery in it. Even with your omelet this morning you could have a mixture, of beautiful flowers I have to have all colors. And so for a hundred years this old ship resigned, been around. Lord, I was reminiscing last night Congresspersons who we went to the Congressional Black Caucus there was only six. We used to be at the Hilton Hotel. And we held court. When we started in Albany there was no black and Puerto Rican caucus, there was the

now, the next mayor for the city of New York, Bill Thompson's father, who was the regional director for the NAACP who went on to be now retired. [0:24:54.4]

It would not have been 106 mayor of New York City of Percy's son, a former President of the New York City branch of the NAACP, Balford Calison (sp), Secretary of State and now the government of the state of New York has his first job at the NAACP. So I want us to learn history so we can have our brothers and sisters in (inaudible) and those who are coming to the shore of these United States to understand the kitchen of our connectiveness to (inaudible). How soon you could forget the history that those from the Caribbean have played to make America what she is today. [0:25:44.8]

And so I join with Karl and Fay every year I trek here because they joined with me in New York City trying to break the (inaudible) of the two communities because Rolly Johnson said this morning, Cook said this morning, Johnson Cook said this morning, "When we join hands together, when we come and talk about the multi national conference, we're global now, we can't think we just in Brooklyn, we just can't think we in the Bronx, we just can't think we in Manhattan and in Queens and Staten Island. We are all over this country. And when we saw the crowd of people, black and white, Jew and Gentile, Muslin, Asians, all across this country who came out for Obama, it is a change in America. And then we African-Americans and the Caribbean's have to absolutely solidify our tie. Because if America is to be what she was born to be, it would be that so on behalf of our new President Ben Judds who I'll promise will be here next year, 35-year-old Rhodes scholar, ingratiating young brother who is so excited where we are going. And my sisters in the Congressional Black Caucus and my brothers, we going to get it together. As our Congresswoman told us yesterday, "We're tired of talking about it. It's (audible) we are sick and tired of being the sick and tired." And so when we leave here, we will be better off because we came together to make new friendships, to re-energize and I would say to Karl and to Fay, our sincere gratitude to you for bringing us together as a family each year. Some of us even don't have enough time to sit. That's why Laura convinced me to come a day early. Even if I don't know what's happening with my 401K (laughter) I'm nervous, Mr. Comptroller man, I don't know about vacation but we thought it not right not to come here and be with our family. Thank you so much. [0:28:13.4] (clapping)

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: We thank you so, so much. He began his second term in January 2006 as the 42nd Comptroller of the City of New York. He's come from a distinguished parenthood, a famous judge and a mother as a public school teacher, but he has distinguished his own path. And he has become a wonderful Comptroller of New York City and he has responsibility for all the city's pension funds. He's just a good brother. He's here with us today, hope to be the next mayor of the city of New York. Let's put our hands together for William C. Thompson, Jr., the Comptroller of a great city of New York, New York. All right?

WILLIAM THOMPSON: Thank you Reverend for that very wonderful introduction and it's good to see you here as our Master, or Mistress of Ceremonies, this morning. And I go ahead and make a mistake. I should have had the Mayor open up for me because he always does it correctly. But to our leader of government, Commissioner Westcott-Williams, to the members of government here in St. Maarten, my colleagues in government all over the United States, friends, good morning.

ALL: Good morning.

WILLIAM THOMPSON: It is definitely a pleasure to be back again even though following Hazel to the microphone is always an indubitable thing to do. [0:30:01.1]

END PART 1

TRANSCRIPT OF AUDIO FILE:

11-7AMSESSION - 30 THRU 75 MIN

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BEGIN TRANSCRIPT:

(Part 2 - beginning at 30:00 through 1:15)

WILLIAM C. THOMPSON, JR.: - It's good to be back again and let me first start out by thanking, and I always term them as I did last year and I have continued to do it over a period of time, termed them the "dynamic duo," Faye and Karl Rodney. [applause at 0:30:16.7] They happen to be, when it comes to vision - and that's exactly 13 years ago when putting this conference together, they had a vision. It is something that they have never taken a step back from. They continue to move forward. they continue to bring us together. And while we have the opportunity to meet, to have conferences in some wonderful places, just fabulous environments and that is the truth, but they work us, okay. Karl and Faye let us understand that we may meet in a wonderful environment, you walk outside and it's gorgeous, but we are here to accomplish things. [0:30:58.7]

Karl mentioned when we were here before, and I remember the discussions with the members of the Congressional Black Caucus, and it wasn't just those who owned hotels, it was members of government who had indicated then that the (inaudible) \$200 dollar duty-free or the amount that you could bring in the country hadn't changed in decades, in years and years and years. And I remember that members of the Congressional Caucus, the Congressional Black Caucus led by Congressman Charles Rangel, the Chairman, and now he wasn't the Chairman at that point, he went back to Washington and in a period of months the amount had doubled from \$200 to \$400 dollars. It was the right thing to do but you saw the power of this Congress. As I said, we might come together in wonderful places, but it is about business. It is about increasing the ties. It is about the business between the Caribbean and the United States and increasing those business opportunities, helping to raise the standard of living for many; helping to build businesses and institutions, that's what it is about. [0:32:09.5]

Last year, Karl had me down here and - no I'm sorry, last year after our conference I worked. I must admit, Karl had me as a luncheon speaker, we were outside, it was about 85 degrees and I was in a tie okay, I was in a suit and tie and it took me a couple of hours afterwards to dry out. But the one point that was made then was Karl looked at me, and those of you who know me in the

introduction as New York City's Controller, I'm a member, a trustee of four of our five pension boards, chief investment advisor to all five. Our total assets in knowing, it might have shrunk a little, but our total assets are about \$95 billion dollars right now. We are the fifth largest public pension fund in America. [applause at 0:33:02.4] At that point Karl looked at me and said, by the way how much of that is invested in the Caribbean basin? How much of that money is going to create, to build infrastructure, to help with tourism, healthcare and other things? And it was an impressive question and I went back and the answer was not much. Not much, so we started to go at that point down the path of looking at investment possibilities in the Caribbean basin; obviously a very promising area. [0:33:42.0]

To go back to quote just a couple of numbers as we would look at - now it has been a tumultuous year on Wall Street, at the same point, many of the investments, as we were termed that we have made in the emerging markets around the world, have outperformed developed markets. For instance, one year, three year, five year performance of emerging market equities has been on par or better than the United States private equity, the United States venture capital, Western European private equity and U.S. public markets. Clearly it makes sense for institutional investors to begin to move further into those waters of emerging markets. [applause at 0:34:25.8]

So we went back and started to engage, particularly we looked at private equity, and the way we invest usually isn't directly it is in private equity funds, so we began and our private equity consultant, we asked them to take an initial look at the Caribbean basin for how much initially should we be investing. And the number that they came back with was \$80 million dollars. That would be our first step into investment in the Caribbean basin through a variety of investment vehicles. We started to move down that path and unless I am wrong, and if I am I will be short a few people or I will lose a few people in my investment side, but I believe that yesterday back in the office, back in front of one of our pension boards, we approved the first application of \$30 million dollars to be invested in the Caribbean basin. [applause at 0:35:25.8] And, we are going to continue to move forward through other investment vehicles to invest and commit, or really to commit and invest, the additional \$50 million dollars and then we will take a step back and look for other possibilities. [0:35:46.8]

So I just wanted those to know that conversation, that investment of money, and as I pointed out it will range in everything from real estate to infrastructure, industries ranging from healthcare, financial services, energy, telecom, tourism and other areas, but that started last year at this conference. [applause at 0:36:09.8] So to those who say, "Jeeze you are going to St. Maarten? Have a wonderful time. I know you are going to spend a lot of time on the beach," Karl and Faye make sure that we are working hard and that we are getting things done. [0:36:28.6]

And at this conference, while it is great to see friends and colleagues and some people I don't get to see for a year, we are here working and we are here making sure that we increase and bring closer those ties that we have had in the past and that we are helping to grow business, that we are helping to improve quality of life both here in the Caribbean and back in the United States.

So again, it is a pleasure and let me say again to Karl and Faye, thank you so much for the leadership that you have shown. We look forward to your continued leadership for years to come. Thank you so much. [applause at 0:37:04.2]

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REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you for working hard while you are here and even back at home. Thank you. It is so good to be together. We do get to sit down and talk to each other here. We try to get on each other's calendars in the City and we never do, but here we are able to make and transact business and it's wonderful.

As a point of personal privilege, it is not everyday that you have a city world leader that you know very well is a man of faith first of all, who reads the Holy Scripture at your wedding. It's not everyday that you go into (inaudible) flavor at a press conference that he has called and then he comes to the hospital to see the birth of your first child. It's not everyday that you have someone who is there at the blessing of that child who's named after him. It's not everyday that you have someone who hosts Whitehouse Fellows when they run, coming to New York City and gives them the key to New York. And, it's not everyday that we have the first African American Mayor of the City of New York in our midst. We are in the midst of history here. He was the 106th Mayor for the City, but he is our number one Mayor, the Honorable Mayor David Dinkins, Professor in the Practice of Public Affairs at Columbia University [applause at 0:38:16.8], and our wonderful, wonderful leader who's shoulders we stand on and for who we cheer for in honor this day. Let's hear it for the Honorable David Dinkins. [0:38:28.4]

DAVID DINKINS: Well one thing is clear, if I had had the good fortune of having the Reverend introduce me more often I might have gotten re-elected. [laughter at 0:38:48.4] I am delighted to be here, but I want to clear one thing up from the start. I think it should be acknowledged that Faye Rodney has been such a wonderful person and to think that she permits her husband to come along with her the way he does [laughter at 0:39:10.1]. It's really nice. She even lets him think he's in charge every now and then. [laughter at 0:39:16.6] But they are a dynamic duo.

I am delighted to be here with you, I truly am and each year, I guess I've been here ten out of - at least ten times I think - and each year I try to get myself on the committee that will go and do the, make the decisions on where we are going to go next year so I can visit the islands but they have not yet let me come. But each year though, I insist that the tennis facilities be adequate, but I am not playing this time. But I want you to know my friends (inaudible) that they were out on the court this morning and I will get a report and it better be good. [laughter at 0:40:14.3]

I am delighted to be here with you, I truly am and we are taking a role and those folks who are not here now, but are still having breakfast or are out on the beach, we've got their names; [laughter at 0:40:33.0] and we are going to chastise them severely. But it really is a wonderful, wonderful opportunity to come together with friends. For me personally it gives me an opportunity to say thank you to so many of you who helped me become the 106th Mayor of New York. [0:40:51.2]

We say often that everybody stands on somebody's shoulders, and by that we mean Malcolm X and Martin Luther King and (inaudible) and Harriett Tubman and Rosa Parks and for me, for me personally, it also means Percy Ellis Sutton, [applause at 0:41:13.0] who ran in 1977 with such class and distinction that nobody laughed at me when I dared try in 1989. And we were successful and it is a broad leap. [0:41:33.6]

Certainly, I was simply privileged to be the stand bearer, but it was many of you here gathered, many of you who worked with me, worked with me in our administration like Laura and Hazel and so many of you, and I know that we wouldn't have gotten nothing done had it not been for the man called the Rumble Genius by the New York Times, Bill Lynch. [0:42:02.3]

Bill used to say, good government is good politics. And you will note on his literature, he's got a consulting firm now and a whole heap of clients and is doing very, very well, you will note that he uses that slogan and it is certainly true. If you do that which is right in the first instance, it will inure to your benefit politically as well. [0:42:34.5]

So we didn't make judgments politically and then say well let's see how that will play out, we did it the other way around. We did what we thought was right and then it inured to our political benefit and I am so proud of so many of the people who helped us succeed as they go forth now. And I can't believe how young they were, some of them are still young even now and maybe it's because I am so old that it looks that way. But it really is an example of what can happen when good people come together and work hard. [0:43:11.7]

And I know that President-elect Obama is going to do well because he is going to surround himself with bright, intelligent, trustworthy people on whom he can rely on. Because no executive, no executive, not even Ed Goldberg, can get it done alone. You've got to have help and you've got to have people to whom you can delegate and you have to have people who will make a triage. You can't look at the thousands upon thousands of things that will come before you. They have to do a triage and bring to you those that they deem to be of significance for you to make a judgment, and then you will make a decision among them. [0:44:00.6]

I am confident that President-elect Obama will make the correct decision once he knows all the options, but he can't know all of the options if they aren't brought to him in the first instance. And the reason that I have such faith that he will be surrounded by good, bright people is the kind of campaign he ran. [applause at 0:44:26.1] He ran one hell of a campaign so it sort of suggests that he will do as well as our President. That is not easily done, particularly in these difficult times, but when Alan Greenspan said, "By God I didn't know it was this bad," or, never (inaudible) how the hell he doesn't know, how am I supposed to know." So it is difficult for sure, but we are going to survive this. They say that that doesn't kill you makes you stronger, so we are going to survive this. [0:45:01.0]

Ed Goldberg made reference to my custom, my habit that I got from African diplomats of instead of acknowledging everyone in the audience, which I would want to do and my staff would go absolutely crazy because I would acknowledge all of my friends and they - I did that once and my wife was standing right next to me and I acknowledged everybody in the house except her. Hell of a ride home [laughter at 0:45:29.6]. But, the African diplomats have this custom, they say, "Usual protocols observed." So, President Jackson that means that you have been acknowledged. [laughter at 0:45:45.2] See, that's the way they do it because if you do otherwise, if I go on to describe how Hazel is my assistant and how - let me tell you, you don't want Hazel against you ever, but by God if she is on your side, nothing can stop you; you will win. [applause at 0:46:12.5] And we are all going to turn out as she leaves us in celebration of NAACP's on it's anniversary it is going to be a

monster, it's going to be a gas to be right in New York and I hope everyone here comes. It is really going to be something. [0:46:34.5]

I say to audiences, the media in particular has been asking me, "Well what's it like for President-elect Obama the first African American President of the United States?" And their theory is they are asking me because I was the first black Mayor and I try to explain that there is a world of difference. While I got to be the head of a city of 8 million plus people and that's terrific, and we have more separate ethnic identities than the United Nations has member nations, so we are truly a magnificent city, but Obama is not only the President of the United States, he is the leader of the free world. So you really can't make a comparison, you can't. Although, I am sure that he's got to feel wonderful because as he said as his grandmother wasn't there at the very end, but fortunately he got to see her, imagine how the family feels, his wife, his children, so I do understand that part and it is a hell of an accomplishment that he has done, but even he could not have done it without you. And he knows that and that is the beauty of it. [0:48:02.8]

I recognize that those of us who have been privileged to serve, it is a privilege and you have to see it that way and recognize it that way and do the best that you can under the circumstances, but never, ever believe that you got there alone, because that's just not true. I am almost amused, I say almost because I feel a little sorry for the distinguished Governor of Alaska, and it's coming out now how they are swallowing in-house. I don't know whether you have seen the current press and how they talk about the poor lady and she is trying to defend herself and I almost, underline almost, feel sorry for her, but, she made it up there. [0:48:54.1]

So to my friend, Suzan, the Reverend Doctor Suzan Johnson-Cook, you all - many in this audience knows that she took a congregation of about 11 or 12 people, meeting at lunchtime down near City Hall, and built it into a congregation in excess of 1,000. She did that. [applause at 0:49:25.9] She is a very, very special, gifted woman. And I say that she is here with us at this 13th annual meeting, notwithstanding the loss of her dear brother, my friend, our friend, Charles, very recently. A young man who has gone to his reward and she is with us nonetheless and we appreciate it. [0:49:59.4]

Charles was quite a guy. He didn't like to be called Charlie incidentally; he was Charles. It's sort of like if somebody says they know Joe Hines who's name is Charles J. Hines and they'll say, "Oh, I know Charlie" and you know that they don't know him worth a damn because he is Joe Hines. [0:50:24.2]

So, to be here in the company of Carolyn Kilpatrick, the Representative in the Congress who takes care of our brother Charlie Rangel; that is special. That is special. You know one year we had something like 35 members of the Congressional Black Caucus here, I think it was 35, it was over 30 certainly, and that got the attention of a whole lot of people. It got the attention I'm confident of some sponsors who said well next year maybe we ought to up ours a bit and they did and that's the genius of Faye that she let's Karl come along with her here. [laughter at 0:51:15.3]

Its true that international black heads of states have prevailed in nations with majority black populations, but never before, never, ever in the history of the United States has the Chief of State, the Commander in Chief been other than a white male. And many of us grew up in the days of Jim Crow and dozens of African Americans were still being lynched; 24 in 1933 when I was six years

old. They were stilly lynching folks and as a matter of fact I can recall some years later as we started to make (we meaning blacks) started to make some progress, we were told things like, "You Negroes (that's what they called us then) you Negroes shouldn't be so pushy, they only lynched five last year." We were supposed to be grateful that so few of us had died. [0:52:15.2]

Then there came World War II; segregation, as we went off to fight and die for our country. And when I got out of the Marine Corps in 1945-1946 and some of my classmates had shrapnel in their bodies, and we could not go to the movies downtown in Washington, D.C., the Nation's Capital, couldn't shop on F Street is you had to try something on, and this is after the war; the war that ended all wars. So we have come a long way since those days, but things are not perfect even now because I maintain that we live in a racist society that is the legacy of slavery, but that does not mean that we have not made great progress. Imagine a black man, President of the United States of America. [applause at 0:53:20.2]

I can remember when there were certain jobs you couldn't even apply for, couldn't even think about it. We got the right to vote by the 15th Amendment in 1870, but we weren't able to exercise that right to vote until 1965 when the Voting Rights Act was passed. As a matter of fact, if you think back on some of the games made during the Civil Rights Days by Dr. King and so many really heroic women and men. And I have to tell you I ain't to sure that I could have followed John Lewis getting beaten down into the ground and he kept coming back, I'm not sure that I could have done that. [0:54:18.7]

I'm not sure that I could have done what the Tuskegee Airmen did. You know about the Tuskegee Airmen, everybody does. they said blacks weren't intelligent enough to learn to fly. And then B.O. Davis who in four years at West Point nobody every spoke to him, they didn't talk to him, and he came through all of that and won the fight for black men to learn to fly and then they said, well you can't go into combat because you will be cowards and turn in the face of the enemy. And then they won that battle and they did it so well that people like Roscoe Brown and Lee Archer and Percy Sutton and so many others, they fly in cover for bombers and never lost a single bomber, not one. [applause 0:55:19.1] So much so that the white bomber pilots would ask for them and I can remember, while I wasn't personally there, the black Marines who were trained in Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, white troops went to Parris Island in South Carolina and they thought that the black Marines were somehow not quite as good as the white Marines, but when the black Marines hit the beach carrying ammo for the guys that were pinned down and running out of bullets, they loved them to death. It's funny what need will do; it's funny. [0:56:16.1]

This election has at last put to rest, I think, any doubt that Americans as a whole oppose the failed economic and social policies of the Bush administration, with its record deficits and recession. Billy Thompson knows about that. Phil used to properly regulate financial industries that led to the loss of retirement pensions and the sub-prime mortgage crisis, outsourcing of American jobs, increased unemployment and refusal to work toward a living wage for job offers, failure to support programs that curtail practices that harm the environment and damage or destroy natural resources, failure to end the war in Iraq and approve any meaningful plan to withdraw troops. [0:57:12.3]

Speaking of Iraq, don't it just get you right here when the Bush people lied to Colin Powell and sent him to the United Nations to tell those lies, and didn't it make you feel good when he came out

for Obama recently; I mean you know [applause at 0:57:38.5] by God, and he is a guy, you know, he is one of our heroes. He truly is, he truly is. [0:57:52.2]

The American people have spoken across the party lines, social classes and racial divide in support of programs to provide affordable and accessible healthcare, to stimulate economic growth and provide a living wage for American workers, to transform energy consumption and reduce American dependence on foreign oil to improve schools by ending No Child Left Behind, and end the war in Iraq and bring the troops home. Some of you will recall that when the troops came home after Vietnam, our country treated them terribly. They spit at them. They didn't ask to go, but they were treated awful. Korea was a little different. And as Charlie Rangle says, he hasn't seen a bad day since. Charlie was pinned down in a foxhole and came out of there with a Purple Heart and Bronze Star and he hasn't seen a bad day since. [0:58:57.2]

But, even though Americans, whether Democrats, Republicans or Independents, have responded overwhelmingly in support of measure that the new President may be compromised I say, at the outset by the actions of the outgoing administration. Keep in mind that he doesn't take office until January 20th and I'm counting on our friends in the Congress to do whatever they can to see to it that he doesn't start off in a whole, because that is what can happen. It is possible; I hope it doesn't happen. [0:59:41.9]

Earlier this year in February of 2008 I participated in a panel at a meeting of the Independent Newspapers International Advisory Board in Cape Town, South Africa on the topic "End of the Bush Era in the United States." And our discussion, neither prophetic or profound, merely reflected the ground swell for change that has this week resulted in one of the most historic moments in American history; the landslide election of the first African American to the Presidency of the United States of America. [1:00:20.7]

The majority of the American public, irrespective of political party affiliation welcomes the end of the Bush administration, by whatever measure we choose to evaluate its impact, domestic and global, this has been a failed presidency that has brought the United States to the brink of disaster and some say beyond the brink. We could recite the long list of offenses perpetrated or orchestrated by that administration that have passed in the name of foreign policy and global economy. [1:00:57.0]

While the United States has now emerged from unprecedented two-year campaigns, some like the New York Times editorial staff have cautioned that we should pay close attention to the efforts underway to perpetrate the policies of the past seven years with Bush. And at the risk of putting a damper on the celebration of Tuesday's victory, I do feel compelled to call attention to a few of the concerns that lay immediately ahead. [1:01:31.7]

True the Congress has a Democratic majority and the political capital of the sitting administration has been all but spent by the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the worst economy since the Great Depression, but even with the lowest approval rating of any president in the history of our country, he has pressed on to do everything possible within his remaining days to compromise the new president, who will take office with the greatest mandate from the people in a century. [1:02:05.6]

He has abused the political process more than any of his predecessors, undermining the power of Congress through the use of Signing Statements. Over the last seven years he has issued hundreds of these documents, devices showing us that he had no intention of obeying laws, that he has claimed impinged on the constitutional powers of the Chief Executive. Examples of such Signing Statements are those that authorize domestic surveillance without warrants, torture of prisoners in violation of the Geneva Convention, and firing U.S. Attorneys for political reasons. [1:02:50.5]

Others include a host of executive actions designed to impede congressional programs to expand health insurance and prevent further pollution of the environment. The disastrous Bush Lame Duck Budget proposal announced at his last State of the Union Address contained provisions for permanent tax cuts for the wealthy and the highest level of military spending since World War II and reductions in spending for medical research, environmental protection and education. [1:03:26.9]

President Obama will have to contend with this and a series of other eleventh hour measures. We are confident that Congress will reach across the aisle to combat the resultant stranglehold from President Obama's ability and move forward our country. We have a long way to go in repairing the damage done over the past seven years. And although we deserve to relish the moment of victory, we do understand that we have more battles to fight and miles to go before we sleep. [1:04:00.1]

We should congratulate those other political leaders, some of whom are with us here today in St. Maarten, for their election and reelection victories as well. [applause at 1:04:11.2] And as one of these, the Dean of the New York City Delegation of Democrats, my brother Charlie Rangle. And this is a quote from my brother, Charlie says, "The world we look at is a world of many colors, many cultures, many faiths and what we as Americans have to offer is our experience in creating a diverse society as we show the world all of the diversity that is the strength of America. We reflect our values and present an example to the world. With our nation growing international involvement there could be no better time to attract the best and most diverse (inaudible) to represent the American people in every corner of the globe." so says Charlie Rangle. [1:05:05.3]

When we break for lunch we will hear the distinguished Governor of my home state of New York, the Honorable David A. Paterson. He will talk about the importance of building upon the partnerships necessary to translate the watershed victory of democracy in the United States into lasting change. I can't resist remind us that the governor's father, Basil Paterson, once won 61 out of 62 counties in New York State in a Democratic Primary for Lieutenant Governor. And then he joined the of (inaudible) of Goldberg. He was a former United States Secretary of Labor, former United States Supreme Court Justice, former United States United Nations Ambassador, the lousiest damn candidate you ever saw. So Basil did not win, but he would have become the first black Lieutenant Governor of New York State and eyes on the first black governor. So imagine, as I sat in the front row at the state committee meeting and Basil placed David's name in nomination for Lieutenant Governor. I had tears in my eyes. It had come full circle and now that same David is Governor of the State of New York and you will hear from him later. [applause at 1:06:41.3]

Later this afternoon we will meet to share our thoughts and plans for sharing working solutions to education. There are challenges is business and political leaders will be to craft strategies for keeping the doors of the international education open to our future leaders. The world will be a

dimmer place if we let the lamp of knowledge go out for a generation of our young people. It is within our power to turn up the flame and keep it burning bright, and in the words of President-elect Barack Obama, "Yes we can." [applause at 1:07:24.8]

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you Mr. Mayor, and thank you for looking so wonderful. He's dapper, Amen! Doesn't he look good? [laughter and applause at 1:07:42.4] And Barack Obama stands on your shoulders because you took the blows that shows what a man of faith could do and we thank you for representing us well. [1:07:52.3]

We also are joined by many a (inaudible) joints throughout this conference by many elected officials and some are here this morning; elected officials from the State of New York. You will hear later from the Honorable David Paterson, you heard from our City Controller Honorable William C. Thompson, Jr., Honorable Adolfo Carrion, Jr., President of the Borough of the Bronx; Honorable Nick Perry the Assemblyman for New York State, The Honorable Ruth Hassle-Thompson, State Senator New York State, the Honorable Keith Wright is with us this morning, Assemblyman for the New York State the Honorable Inez Dickens, Council Whip, Member of the New York City Council, and Honorable Dr. Kendall Stewart, Member of the New York City Council. Can we applaud for all of the elected officials from the State of New York? [applause at 1:08:34.3]

And then members of Congress who will be joining us throughout, some of whom you heard last night and today, the Honorable Donald Payne, the Chair of the Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, the Honorable Bennie Thompson, Chair of Homeland Security, Honorable Donna Christensen, the Honorable Chair of the Subcommittee on National Resources, Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee and now we are also going to hear from one of our Presidents of the Congressional Black Caucus, the Honorable Carolyn Cheeks-Kilpatrick. We are going to the federal level y'all [applause at 1:09:09.6] who is our President, Madam President and will be working with Mr. President would you please come and let us receive her this morning for what a wonderful job you have done and you have served with distinction as well and we celebrate and salute you this morning. Can we applaud the other members of the Congress who are with us? [applause at 1:09:29.1]

REP. CAROLYN CHEEKS-KILPATRICK: Giving honor to God who is the head of my life, present protocol being established [laughter at 1:09:46.3], but I've got to say a couple even given that. To Faye and Karl, its really thoroughly been said but thank you from the bottom of all of our hearts. We could not do this without you. Thank you very, very much. [applause 1:10:00.4] We could (inaudible) every week in our Washington offices, but that's how we keep up with the Caribbean if not for the newspaper, there would be no association that we could actually see and know what is going on and how we (inaudible) so thank you very much from the bottom of our heart. Thank you very much. [applause at 1:10:18.6] Commissioner Wescot-Williams as well as all the commissioners over here. St. Maarten, one more time, thank you for hosting us one more time, we love you, thank you very much. [1:10:29.4]

Our key ingredients for the Congressional Black Caucus where I Chair 43 members, we come from 21 states, we present over 40 million Americans; [applause at 1:10:40.8] five full Committee Chairs, 17 Subcommittee Chairs and others like the Majority Whip and Jim Clyburne from South

Carolina and others who help to control the Congress. We have the first African doctor in the house, a member of our Caucus who chairs our health branches and very instrumental in us being here, why don't you welcome my sister. Dr. Congresswoman Donna Christensen. [applause 1:11:11.7] Thank you, we love you.

It was mentioned earlier that, and I'm going to say who else is here, you heard from Dr. Payne and I know if he is here in this room you will hear from him again, you did last night. who chairs our Western Hemisphere Committee. Bennie Thompson who is here and I think he came through last night, he chairs our Homeland Security Committee also will be here. Sheila Jackson Lee from Houston, Texas and I know many of you know her, she is en route and will be here just shortly. Our number uno Congressman, second only to John Conyers in seniority, from the great state of New York, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, our big brother Charlie Rangle will be here this afternoon. [applause at 1:11:55.3]

And what you probably don't know is the federal budget is \$3 trillion dollars. Charlie's committee handles \$2 trillion of that for Medicare, Medicaid, for veterans programs; his committee is the committee that produces the revenue, \$2 trillion of it, giving it out in what we call entitlements to those programs. I served on Appropriations where the committee spends the money, and I like that too. We spend a million and Charlie generates it and gives it all by formula to the entire committee and our committee handles the appropriations in sending it out. [1:12:33.0]

Together we make up the Congressional Black Caucus and it was said earlier, many more members will be coming and will have come over the years, but I just wanted to say a point of personal privilege, this last six months, the last two months and the last two weeks, members of the Congressional Black Caucus have been crisscrossing America for our now President, Senator Barack Obama. [applause at 1:13:00.1] Even as we had our own elections [applause 1:13:02.4] Tuesday we were all on the ballot as well but (inaudible) just thinking as it relates to it's is major, but most of us went to many states all over this country. [1:13:12.4]

You see 18 of our members represent less than 50% of the African Americans; three of our members represent less than 15% African Americans, the most that any of us represent is a 62% African American so we represent all of America, Asians, Africans, Latinos, Europeans, Native Americans, you name it and we are called the conscious of the Congress and we really are that you know. [1:13:38.5]

God built us from a certain kind of way and we got some of this stuff in us that you do, you cross ethnic lines and it makes us stand up for righteousness, speak up on injustices and when we see something wrong you have to hear it because, of course, we are the conscious of the Congress. So in the spirit of (inaudible) is that Congresswoman Christensen talks about healthcare it's real. They have more because we have less. [1:14:03.2]

We hope and we know that with President Obama yes we had some difficult times in the Mayor laid them out well. And to the sponsors by the way, all of you, we couldn't do this, be with you, help Karl if you weren't here with us so we say thank you very much, you are so important. To all of the sponsors, thank you very much. [applause at 1:14:23.9]

So as we move to these next four years, two months, 32 days - talk about the short period between November 5th and August 20th, [sic] President Bush is still the President. Our Constitution says that if there is unrest or malice or whatever, the sitting President can hold off and not let happen the January 20th date. There isn't many people that know about that, so we don't want any - we were kind of scared about November 4th when we won. We wanted everybody to be prayerful, be (inaudible) and have fun and all that, don't burn [1:15:00.5]

END PART 2

TRANSCRIPT OF AUDIO FILE:

11-7AMSESSION - LAST 20 MIN

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BEGIN PART 3:

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON COOK: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Thank you for looking so wonderful. He's dapper. Amen. Doesn't he look good? (clapping). Barack stands on your shoulders because you took the blows and showed what a man of faith could do and we thank you for representing us well.

We also are joined by many and will be joined throughout this conference by many elected officials. Some are here this morning; elected officials from the State of New York. You will hear later from the Honorable David Patterson. You've heard from our city controller, William C. Thompson, Jr., Honorable Adolpho Carrion, Jr., President of the Burroughs of the Bronx, Honorable Nick Hardy, the assemblyman from New York State, the Honorable Ruth Hassell Thompson, State Senator of New York State, the Honorable Keith Wright is with us this morning, assemblyman from New York State, the Honorable Inez Dickens, council whip member of the New York City Council, and Honorable Dr. Kendall Stuart, member of the New York City Council. Can we applaud for all of the elected officials of the State of New York? (clapping).

Members of Congress who will be joining us throughout. Some of whom you have heard from them last night and today, the Honorable Donald Payne, Chair of Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, the Honorable Bennie Thompson, Chair of Homeland Security, Honorable Donna Christensen, the Honorable Chair of Subcommittee on National Resources, Honorable Sheila Jackson-Lee, and now we hope to also hear from one of our presidents of the Congressional Black Caucus, the Honorable Carolyn Cheeks-Kilpatrick. We're going to the federal level you all; who is our (inaudible) president. We're only working with Mr. President. Will you please come and let us receive her this morning for what a wonderful job you have done and you have served with distinction as well, and we celebrate and salute you this morning. Can we applaud the other members of Congress (inaudible) (clapping).

REP. CAROLYN CHEEKS-KILPATRICK: Giving honor to God who's the head of my life, present protocol being established, but I've got to say in comfort even given that. To Fay and Karl, really (inaudible) really from the bottom of all of our hearts, I cannot be this without you. Thank

you very much. We could (inaudible) ever week in our Washington offices and that's how we keep up with the Caribbean. If not for the newspaper, there would be no association that we could actually see and know what's going on and how we plug in. So thank you very much from the bottom of my heart. Thank you very much.

Commissioner Wescott-Williams, as well as all commissioner's who are here, St. Maarten, one more time. Thanks for hosting us. We love you. Thank you very much.

I bring you greetings from the Congressional Black Caucus, where I chair 43 members. We come from 21 states. We represent over 40 million Americans, 5 full mini chairs, 17 subcommittee chairs, and others like the majority whip and Jim Clyburn from South Carolina, and others who helped to control the Congress. We have the first African doctor in the house, a member of our caucus, who chairs our health brain trust and very instrumental in being here. As being here, won't you welcome my sister back, your Congresswoman Donna Christensen? Thank you, Donna. We love you.

It was mentioned earlier that, I'm going to say who else is here, you heard from Donald Payne, and I know if he's hear in this room, you will hear from him again. You did last night. He chairs our Western Hemisphere Committee. Bennie Thompson, who's here, and I think he came through last night, he chairs our Homeland Security Committee. Also will be here. Sheila Jackson-Lee from Houston, Texas. I know many of you know her. En route, she will be here just shortly. Our number uno congressman, second only to John Conyers in seniority, from the great State of New York, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, our big brother, Charlie Rangel, will be here this afternoon.

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As it was said earlier, many more members will be coming and have come over the years, but I just wanted to say, a point of personal privilege. This last 6 months, the last 2 months, and the last 2 weeks, Members of the Congressional Black Caucus have been criss-crossing America for our now president, Senator Barack Obama. Even as we had our own election, Tuesday, August 4th, we were all on the ballot as well, but ours wasn't as significant as relates to us as major, but most of us went to many states all over this country. You see, 18 of our members represent less than 50% African-American. Three of our members represent less than 15% African-American. The most that any of us represent is 62% African-American. So we represent all of America; Asians, Africans, Latinos, Europeans, Native Americans. You name it.

We're called the Conscience of the Congress and we really are that. You know, God built us in a certain kind of way. We got some of this stuff in us, as you do with you. Across ethnic lines, it makes us stand up for righteousness, speak up on injustices, and when we see something wrong,

you have to hear it because, of course, we're the Conscience of the Congress. So the disparities that Donna, Congresswoman Christensen, talks about in health care, it's real. They have more because we have less. We hope and we know that with President Obama, yes we have some difficult times and the Mayor laid them out well. And to the sponsors by the way, all of you all. We couldn't do this, be with you, help Karl if you weren't here with us. We say, "thank you very much. You are so important". All the sponsors. Thank you very much.

So as we move through these next 4 years, 2 months, 32 days, talk about the short period between November 5th and August 20th. President Bush is still the president. Our constitution says that if there is unrest or malice or whatever, the sitting president can hold off and not let happen the 20th day. There are few people that know about that. So we don't want any, we were kind of scared about November 4th when we won. We wanted everybody to do prayer. There will be a tone-in and have fun, and all that. Don't burn nothing down. Don't burn up a car and all that because they're waiting. Some people are waiting. Some people are very angry. We are euphoric. God is euphoric and people across ethnic lines, you saw them. The multi-cultural facets of America happy because it was a perfect storm. Financial markets crashing. People losing jobs. Health care unaffordable. Our schools in shambles. Big bad America and we still are; it's just this 8 years we have a man in the White House who knew not Joseph. In his leadership of our country, he not only decimated America, but caused havoc around the world. I know you know that.

So we've got a lot of building to do. What Karl and Fay has done is to energize each of us so we take our rightful places. All of you and all of us together. I'm going to bring into this room 2 of my sisters who we lost over the last year. Congresswoman Stephanie Stubb-Jones, Cleveland, Ohio, will be right here. Right over here, smiling and said 'Let's do this'. I want you to give a shout-out for Stephanie. She's up in here right now. Congresswoman Juanita Milligram-McDonald from Los Angeles, also with the ancestors are up in here right now. Both chair people I might add. Congresswoman Stephanie Stubb-Jones (sp) of our Ethics Committee and Congresswoman Juanita (inaudible) McDonald of our House Administration Committee. Finally, all during this tenure, 2 years is what Congress is, this is the 110th congress. So many historical things have happened that I mentioned to you already, including electing our first African-American president. Then finally Julia Carson from Indianapolis, Indiana, also (inaudible) has been to this conference many many times.

So my brothers and sisters across racial, ethnic gender, geographic, biological, (inaudible) we have much work to do, but it can be done. Because I believe there is a higher power who's directing all of this. We just have to know it and believe it, and do it, and be centered in a higher power.

So as members of the Congressional Black Caucus, as we go back next week to address the financial crisis. You all have been hearing about this \$700 billion, every time I say it, we handle a trillion, our committee. \$700 billion is what we just gave out or given out as we speak. The good thing about that, they were trying to give it all out. \$300 billion of it is gone, but the good news, the new president, anything they put in force, he can pull it back. So we have an opportunity to do some real comprehensive stuff.

The housing market? No more foreclosures. Those same people who got the \$700 billion, they were the ones who caused 80%, 85% of the foreclosing. Do you all know that? Predatory lending.

Loss of jobs. Shifting our jobs over seas. You see, when the financial people do their thing, (inaudible) a billion here and here. It's paper. It's two clicks of the mouse. They were selling bad paper then and they were making big money. My sister, Susan. Let's give Susan a hand. Essence Magazine. Love you girl. (inaudible). We have to be smarter and better as we go forward. Senator Barak Obama, and you may have heard about his prudent campaign. Most of us in this room a 1-1/2 or 2 years, we thought it couldn't done, because we lived with the same people who had to do it. But the perfect storm. Don't forget that. The perfect storm caused by humans. Greedy humans in many cases.

I do a lot of work in the Middle East; Egypt, as well as Lebanon. I do (inaudible) and they're great people, but this president castigated Arabs. In Michigan, where I come from, and John Conyers, we have the largest population of Arabs outside of the Middle East. They've been in our community for decades. They go to our schools. Our children know them. They help and help to build the community. Yes, there are a few bad ones who blew up some (inaudible). God took care of them. They're going to be taking care of. But just like we don't want everybody to measure African-American by a few who do bad things, there are good things in all people. I believe that as President Obama comes into fruition, a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, his job, and he really does believe this, is to bring the races of God's people together. Whether you know God as God, or Allah, or Jehovah, or what have you, that if you really believed in a higher power, let's get busy and rebuild the world.

So, my brothers and sisters, we got a lot of work to do and you do as we go back to New York. Keep the (inaudible) operating. Keep your will strong and knowing that, as president takes his oath and pray that nothing happens between November 5th and January 20th. He can call marshall law. He can go around the country and lock up heathens and Christians, which isn't going to happen. Lock up anybody who might be subversive or such. Create an environment so that January 20th may not ever happen. That's the nightmare. Now snap back. Wake up. He won. It's going to be all right. Let's build a new America again. Let's make sure that our children can have adequate education because it's no longer Michigan against Indiana or Ohio, Michigan against China. It's US against the world and we can build those partnerships the way we do with Faye and Karl, and all of us who have been working for all of these years.

Thirteen is a significant number in the Bible. Thirteen is a number that renews us, gets us ready for the next state of our development. So as we meet here in beautiful St. Maarten, let us rededicate ourselves to a higher power to each other, to knowing that we can do anything but fail. God bless you. (clapping).

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON COOK: Now that's a sister who's got it going on. Thank you so, so much, Congresswoman, Madam President of the Congressional Black Caucus. We can see why. Amen. We are looking forward to great things ahead and you have us as the wind beneath your wings. All of you Congressional Black Caucus members, we are with you so much. Let the church say, "Amen".

We just want to share with you before we present our next speaker. This evening, our host country is going to present us with a fantastic affair. It's going to be offsite and we hope you won't miss it. Transportation is going to be coordinated and we are going to ask that you meet in the lobby at 6:15

tonight. The transportation will be coordinated by our local government. It's a casual event. It's a beach site affair tonight and we're asking all conference attendees to gather at 6:15 sharp in the lobby for departure. So that's our night affair tonight and we will repeat that announcement throughout the day. If you will just please make note of that as we go forward.

We've heard from the city level. We have heard from the federal government. You know, we are so excited about our first African-American president and many of us also wanted a woman in and it was not a woman's time. It was time for Barak Obama, but in this country, it is a woman's time. As the commissioner who is the leader of government for St. Maarten. Come on somebody. It is Commissioner Sarah Westcot-Williams, our host. She has been gracious. She is elegant. She is eloquent and we are excited about being received by her today. Commissioner Sarah Westcot-Williams. (clapping)

COMMISSONER SARAH WESTCOT-WILLIAMS: Thank you reverends and a very good morning. There's another way to deal with the selfish (sp) protocol and that is by saying, "Welcome friends to St. Maartens". I can say this notwithstanding the many luminaries in our midst because it is truly a welcome to old friends and new acquaintances.

This conference, at this time, on this island, would not have been possible if it was not for the resoluteness and conviction of Mr. and Mrs. Rodney. It was 6 years ago that many of you were here on St. Maarten for the conference as well. It is with a lot of confidence that last year, I threw out the idea of why not again St. Maarten., has been at that time five years ago. This year, it is six years ago. It was only after throwing it up as we sat down to plan, I realized that this conference would have been held two days following the most important election in modern times of the United States of America. As we, Commissioner Malven (sp) and myself visited Karl and Fay in New York, I said to him, "Karl, as much as I want this conference on St. Maarten, I don't know if the timing is right." He said without being presumptuous about the outcome of the election, he said, "Oh no. I believe the timing is right". And with a glee in his eyes, I suspected that he was counting on a victory and a big one, and felt that St. Maarten would be a place where we could celebrate that victory.

This small island of ours, and I'm aware of the clock just in case I was to get any sign from the back. but this small island of ours, only 37 square miles and that is both sides of the island, tonight you probably would understand. You will get to know how we share the island, but I can tell you that St. Maarten is the smallest side of the two. Nevertheless, we accommodate close to two million tourists annually on this island. Approximately 1.3 million visit our island by cruise and the others come here to stay over with us, relax and enjoy our island. And yes it is so opportune and truly a region in transition.

Throughout this region, every island, every island nation, every country, is going through some sort of transition. For St. Maarten itself, we are going through a major constitutional transition. Moving from what others term as called an island territory, a remnant of a colonial system, to that of country within the kingdom of the Netherlands. The French side, just last year, moved from a French municipality to what is called in their terms, "a collectivity". So yes, this region is truly in transition and change is all around us. This side is so important for the relationships between the

United States of America and the Caribbean region. I am again so thrilled to hear so many of you speak of kinship, relationships, and ancestry as you recognize this region for what it is.

Term water (sp)? Yes. Maybe, but definitely a part of the United States of America. However you take it or twist it. The Diaspora of the West Indies and the United States of America. It's big. It is great and we need to continue to recognize that forging those relationships strengthen it year after year through this conference call is extremely important. As if it wasn't enough to realize that we were going to start a conference two days after such an important election, just barely three weeks ago, St. Maarten was brushed by Hurricane Omar, a category 3 hurricane. So if you were around and you noticed that the scenery is not exactly what you expected of it, if you feel a little in the roads as you go from place to place, recognize that that is what had happened. But Karl decided the conference was going to go on and the conference will go on, Karl, right here in St. Maarten.

So tonight it is my pleasure to host you at another side of the island because you are here two days after the election, two days after a historic election, and yes, notwithstanding the turmoil and the challenges, President Barak Obama is going to face, the party too will continue and the party on St. Maarten will continue this evening on the other side of the island hosted by the Government of St. Maarten. I encourage you and those who are part of the latest workshop this afternoon, to do it well, right, and try to get out as soon as possible so that we can move from here in a timely fashion and the police escort will only be something to show you how proud we are of having all of you here. But we will get to the other side of the island nicely, on time. A region in transition. Thank you for being here at this time in your history and in our history.

I welcome all of you and it is wonderful to be able to open this conference in a time like this because it is for such a time that you are here and we are here, and it is such a time that President Barak Obama was chosen to lead the United States of America and, with that leadership, to be the leader of the free world. If, just if, approximately 40,000 more persons voted could have given him even more votes, he would have had those from right here on St. Maarten, the friendly island of the early (inaudible). So today, we too rejoice with you and we too are hopeful that the change that is coming will be a good one for all of us. We just hope that some of that invigoration and renewed energy that we all will get from this conference will serve you well, when you go back and will serve us well as we continue to build our island nations from strength to strength and with God, all things are possible. Have we not seen that on November 4, 2008. What a wonderful way to celebrate and, Karl, what a wonderful thing to happen (inaudible) St. Maarten and deciding the conference welcomes the 13th Annual Multi-National Caribbean Business Conference. Thank you. Welcome. Enjoy it and may God continue to bless you richly. Thank you.

The question was how casual can you be tonight? You be as casual as you feel comfortable on an island that is your host. So men, absolutely no jacket and ties. I would not recommend that, but be as casual as you've been comfortable. Thank you.

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON COOK: All right. This is where we break. Hold on. We have (inaudible) ceremony. If you will just wait for us please. We're going to invite all of the sponsors and the elective officials to please join the Rodneys as our host today. here up front for our ribbon cutting ceremony. All of our sponsors, all of our elected officials that are present, please come and

join us up front. Those who are our speakers this morning, please right here in the front of the stage, and we will be lead. All rise. (singing)

END TRANSCRIPT

Exhibit 4

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative of Citi
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: March 17, 2009
Location: AkinGump NYC - 399 Park Ave, New York, NY
Time: approximately 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: The Representative of Citi was the Citi employee who managed their donation to the Thirteenth Annual Multinational Business Conference. The OCE requested an interview with the Representative of Citi and he consented. The Representative of Citi made the following statements in response to questioning:

1. The Representative of Citi was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. The Representative of Citi signed a written acknowledgement of the warning [attached],
2. The Representative of Citi was laid off from Citibank on December 15, 2008. At the time he was laid off he was Community Relations Officer for Brooklyn and Staten Island
3. The Representative of Citi joined Citi in December 2003. He had previously worked for Chase in a similar capacity. Chase sponsored previous Caribbean Multinational Business Conferences. The Representative of Citi attended the conference when he was at Chase. Chase was the first financial institution to act as a sponsor at the conference.
4. When he came to Citi, he was told to "lead the charge" in terms of Citi's participation in the conference. His superiors made the decision that Citi should participate.

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5. The Representative of Citi's direct supervisor was Eileen Aulden, New York State Director; she reported to Kathy Ebanks, Regional Director. Eric Eve, Senior Vice President for Community Relations headed the Representative of Citi's department. Mr. Eve made the decision to support the conference and decided on the dollar amount. The Representative of Citi was in charge of managing Citi's participation.
6. Citi donated \$75,000 to support the conference. Citi was the only "senior" sponsor. The money was specifically for the conference. Citi did not put any specific restrictions on how the money could be used to support the conference. The check came from Citi's sponsorship budget and was either made out to the Carib News or the Carib News Foundation.
7. In previous years the amount Citi donated was less. In 2007 it was \$50,000.
8. Karl Rodney chose the location of the conference. Governments in the region made bids to host the conference.
9. The only person from the conference that the Representative of Citi dealt with was Rodney. The Representative of Citi met with Rodney on 5 occasions between May and November 2008. These meetings concerned the program at the conference and Citi's participation in it. These meetings were not about the amount of Citi's sponsorship or to negotiate that in any way. The Representative of Citi described this interaction as a "dialogue" with Rodney. Rodney was receptive to suggestions about the program.
10. At these meeting the Representative of Citi would tell Rodney how he would like to "position" Citi at the conference. Citi participated in the luncheon, with Eve as a keynote speaker, and in workshops that fit their business. The lunch topic was set by Rodney. The Representative of Citi then tried to "position" Eve in a complimentary way. The Representative of Citi recalls suggesting to Rodney that Citi could do a workshop on financial education.
11. Rodney did not present a written agenda for the conference before any of their 5 meetings. The first time the Representative of Citi saw a written agenda was a week or a week and a half before the conference began in early November. The Representative of Citi recalls seeing a draft agenda. He was shown the draft agenda submitted to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct [attached as Exhibit B] and said he saw some version of the draft agenda but not this specific one. He did recall seeing the panel entitled, "Creative Financial Solutions" on page 9 of Exhibit B. He said when he saw

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

that panel he thought he could participate in the panel and talk about foreclosures. He "vetted" that topic internally at Citi and then proposed it to Rodney and Rodney agreed.

12. The Representative of Citi attended the dinner on Thursday night. He does not recall Congressman Payne speaking.
13. The Representative of Citi participated in the ribbon cutting with members of Congress, host government officials and major sponsors on the Friday morning of the conference. The Representative of Citi got sick on Friday and missed the evening event.
14. Eve did not have a sit-down meeting with the members of Congress in attendance to the Representative of Citi's knowledge.
15. The Representative of Citi did not have more than "cursory" conversations with the Members of Congress who attended. He saw all members that attended more than once. He saw most of them on Friday and had seen everyone by Saturday.
 - a. The Representative of Citi recalled Congressman Rangel was there. The Representative of Citi thought he first saw him on Friday and saw him on Saturday. The Representative of Citi thought he saw him at different events.
 - b. The Representative of Citi saw Congressman Payne on more than one occasion.
 - c. The Representative of Citi saw Representative Kilpatrick early on Friday. He does not recall her speaking.
 - d. The Representative of Citi saw Representative Thomson on Thursday; he saw him on more than one occasion.
16. 300 to 350 people typically attended the event. It was open to anyone.
17. The conference was billed as the Carib News conference. Rodney is the publisher and CEO of the Carib News. In May or June one would start seeing advertisements for the conference on the back page of the Carib News. The Representative of Citi thought Citi's check went to the Carib News Foundation but did not know what the Foundation did other than the conference. The Representative of Citi thought the conference was "totally" financed by the sponsors. He did not know if Carib News put up any money for the conference.

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18. The Representative of Citi said Rodney saw the conference as an opportunity to position the Carib News as the "voice of the Caribbean" which is how the paper markets itself in New York.
19. Citi saw the conference as offering Citi three benefits: (1) it sent a message to their partners; (2) it was a business opportunity; and (3) it was good for Citi's image.
20. The members of Congress lent the meeting "clout."
21. Sponsors also bought ad space in the Carib News. This was not part of their sponsorship of the conference. Citi bought ad space in the Carib News.
22. The Representative of Citi also knows Rodney from the Board of the University of the West Indies. Both he and Rodney are members and participate in telephone meetings and, occasionally, in in-person meetings.

We certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with the Representative of Citi on March 17, 2009.

Leo J. Wise
Staff Director & Chief Counsel

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

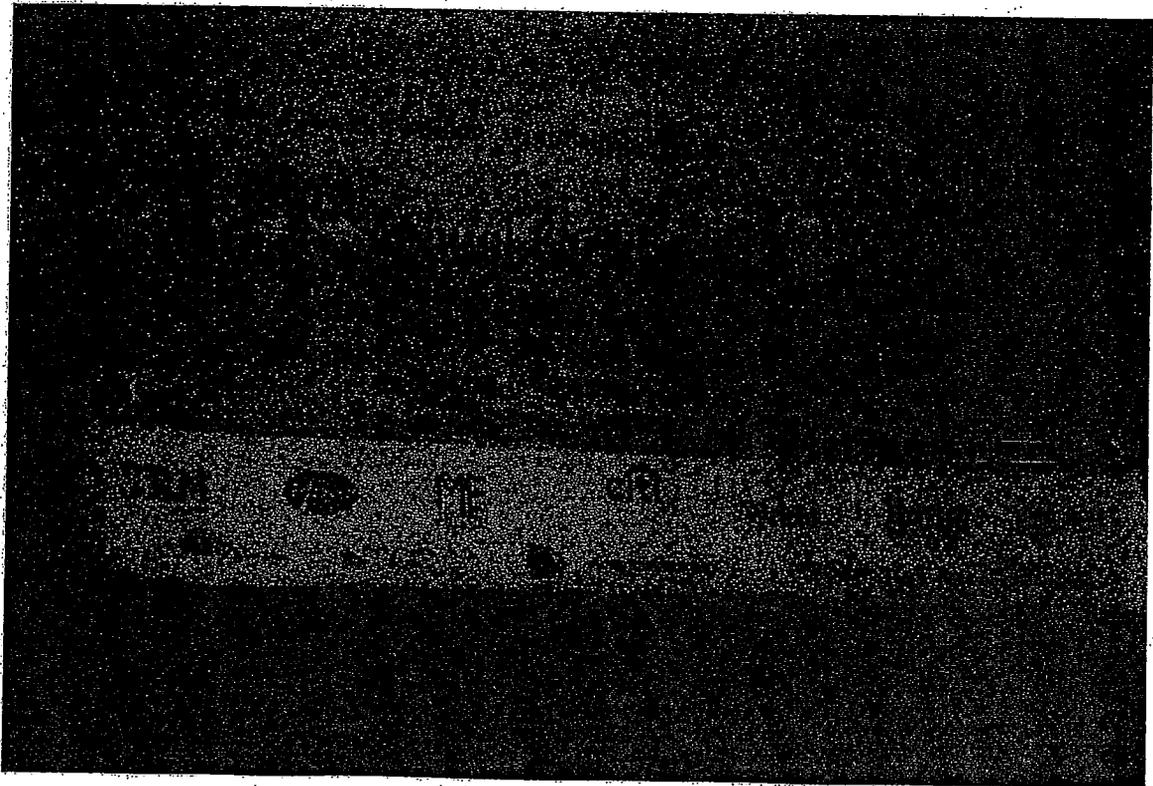
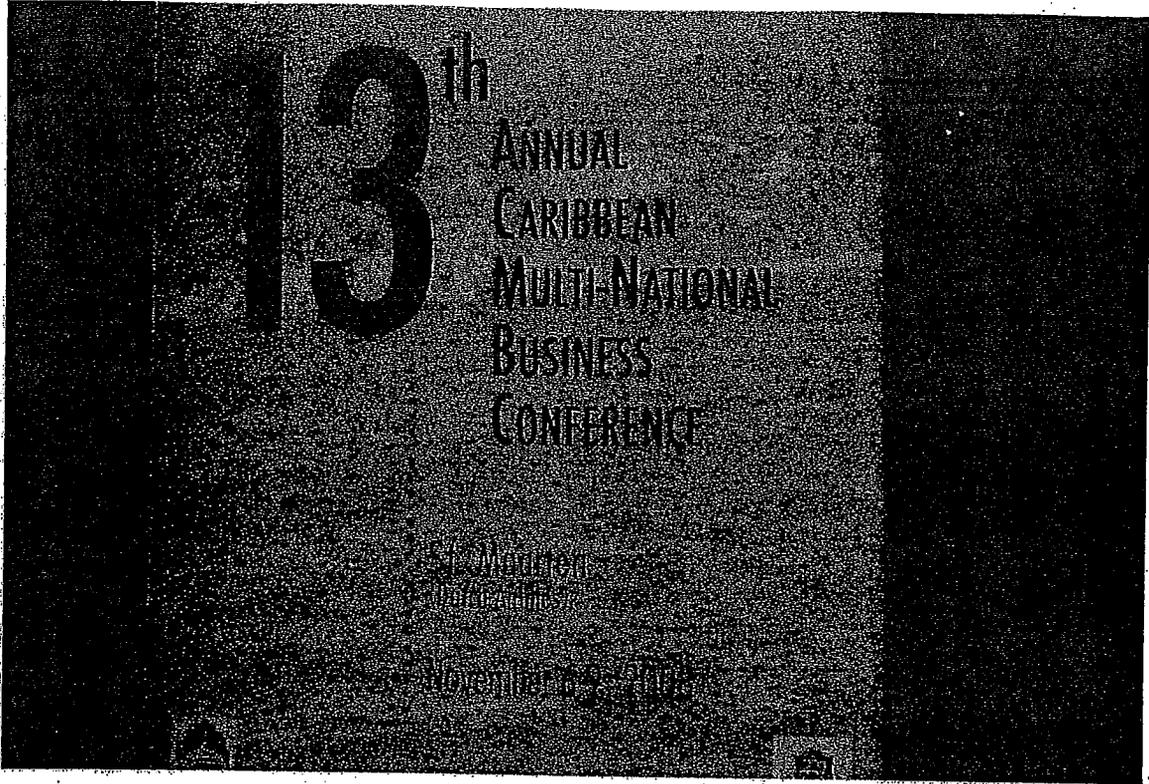
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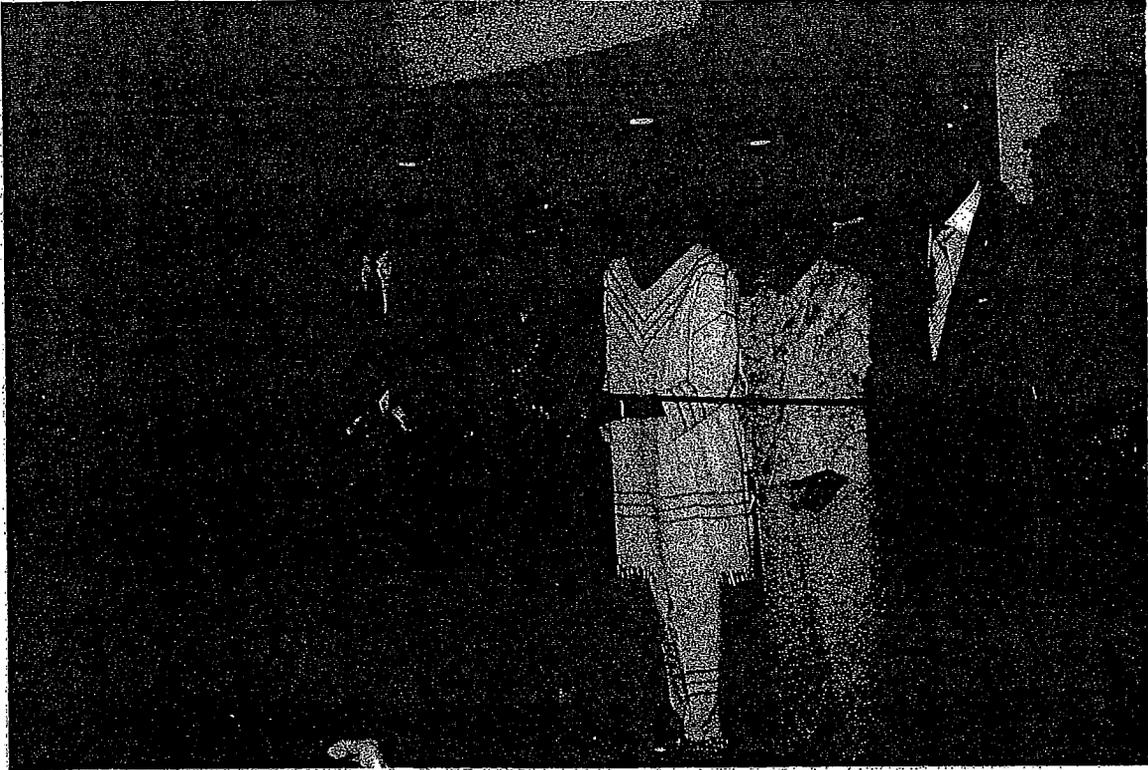
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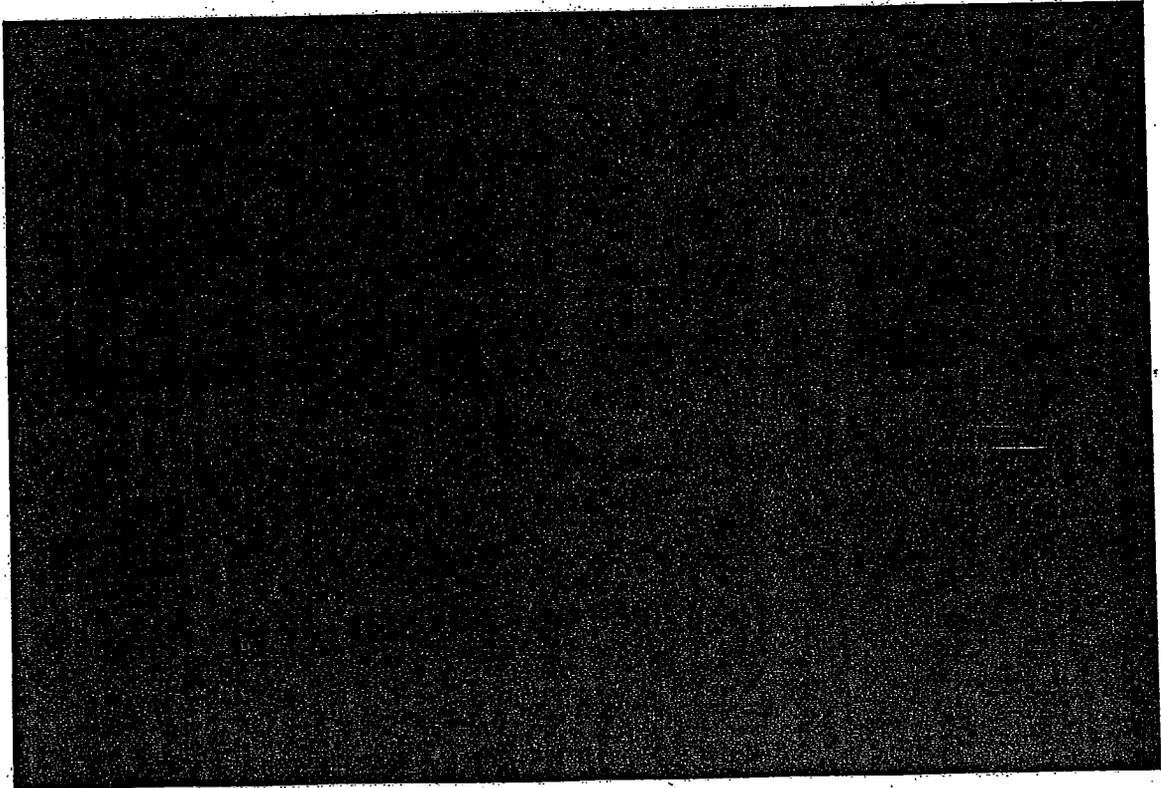
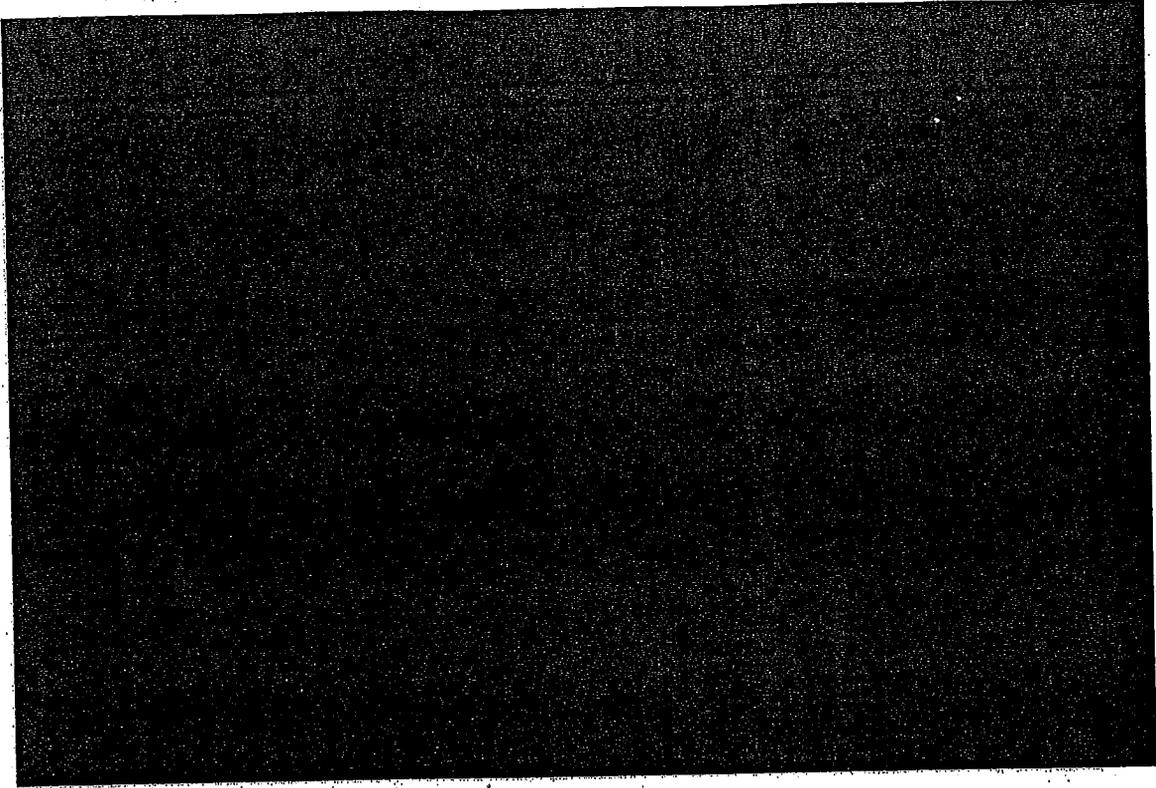
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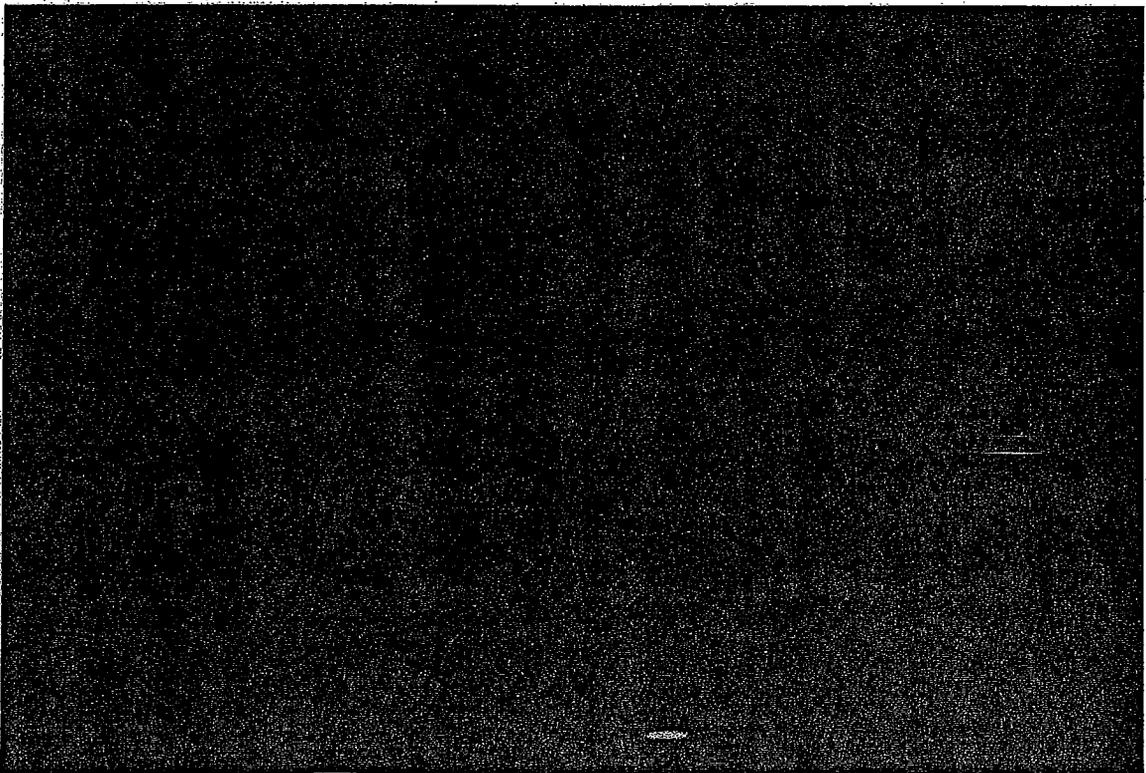
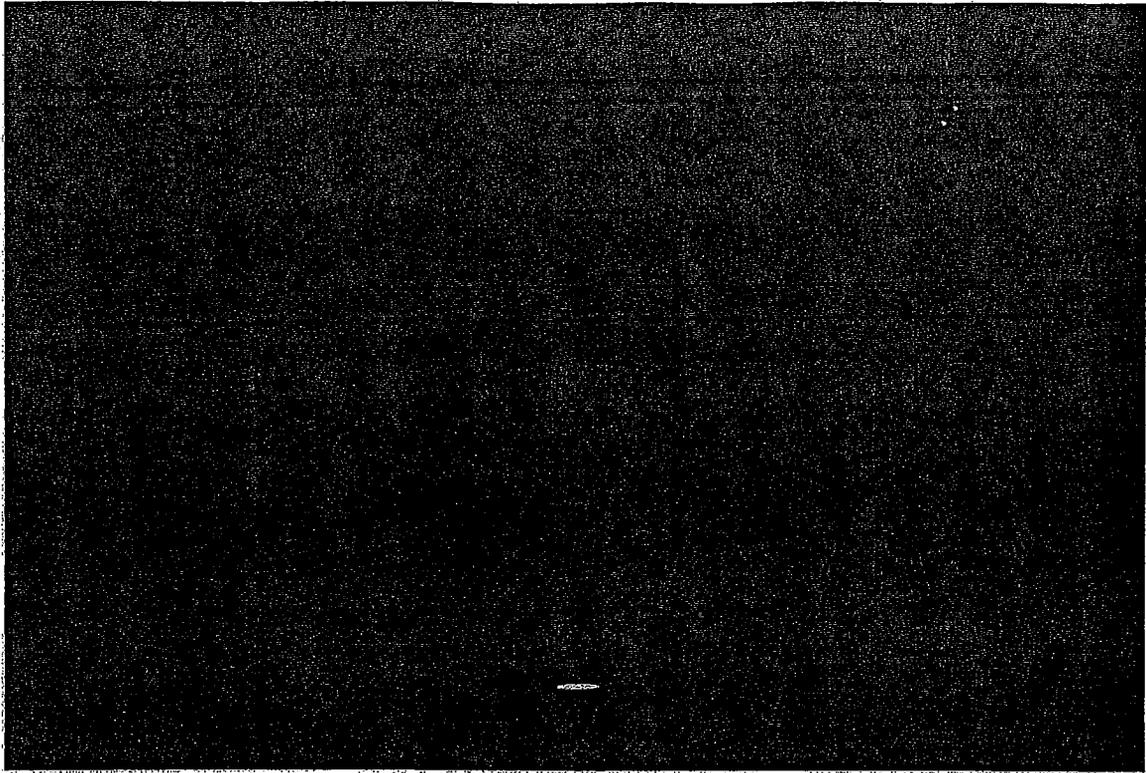
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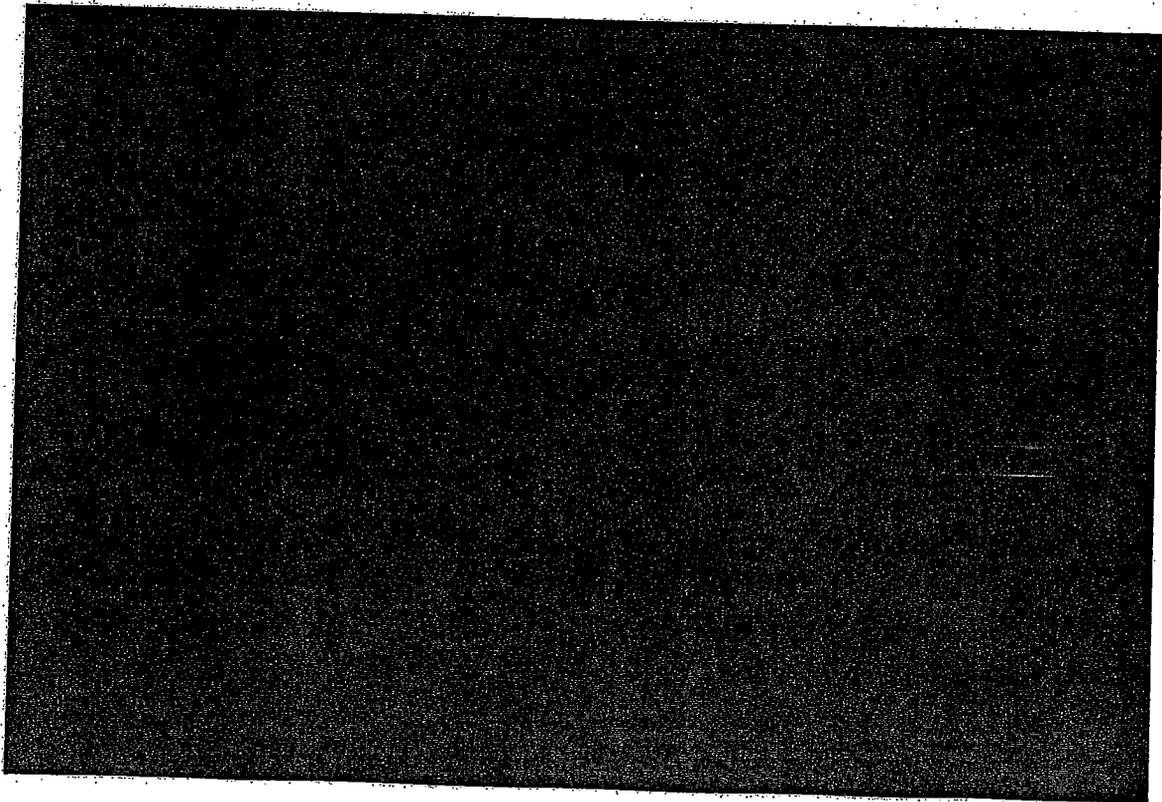
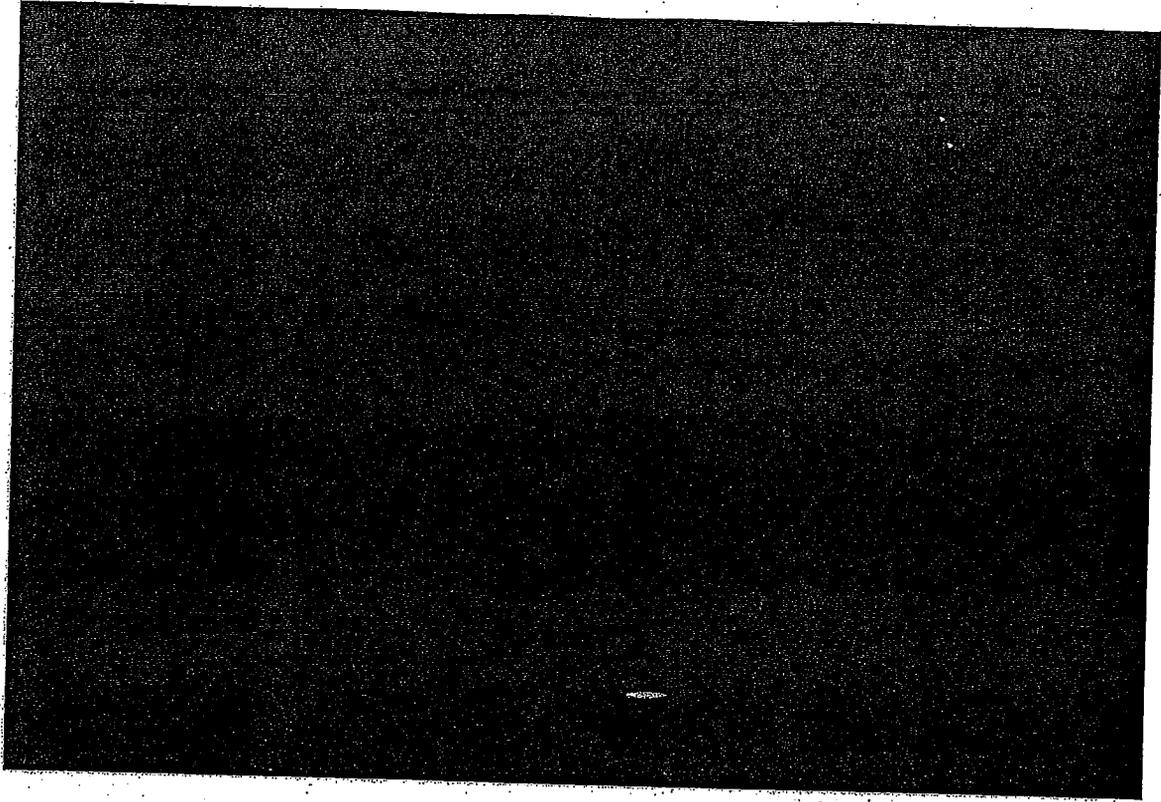
Exhibit 5

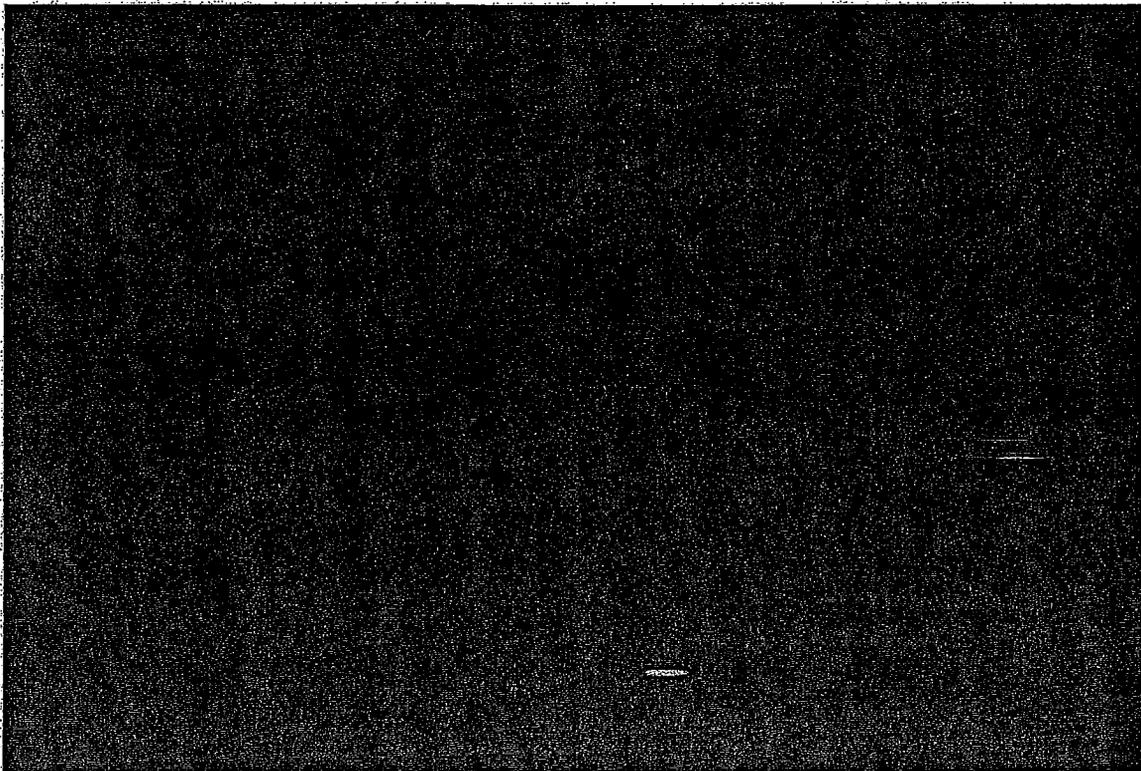




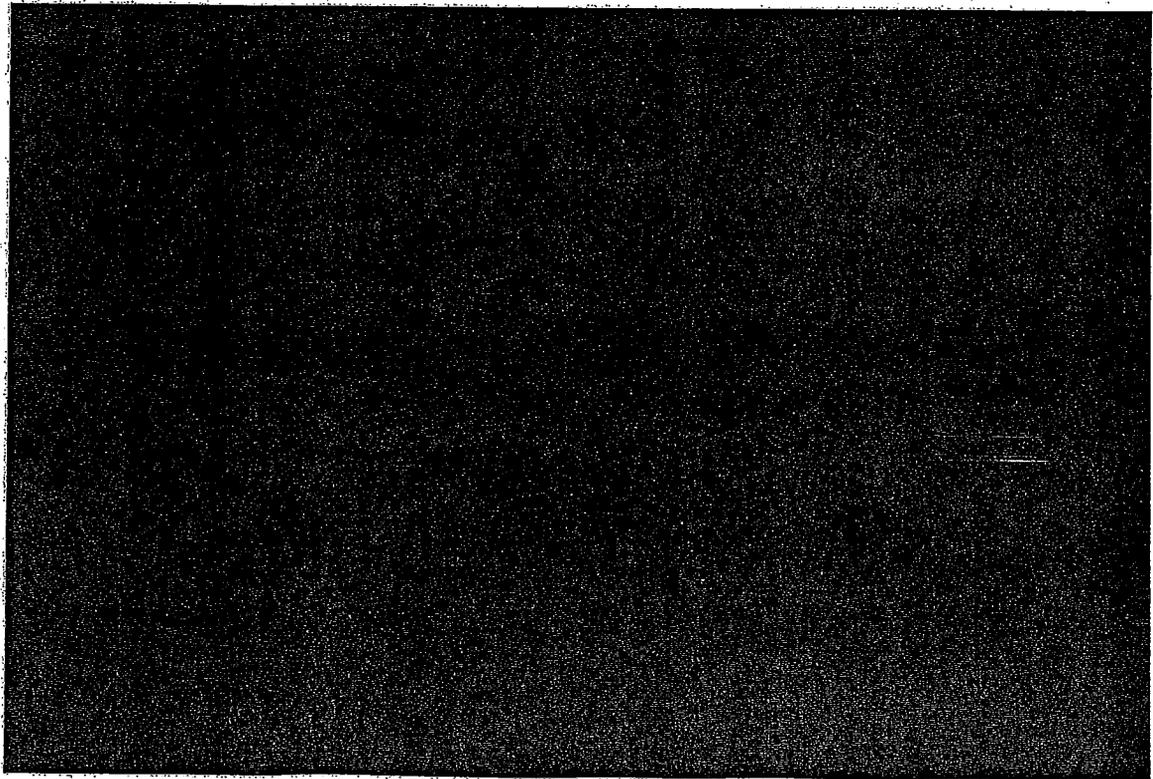
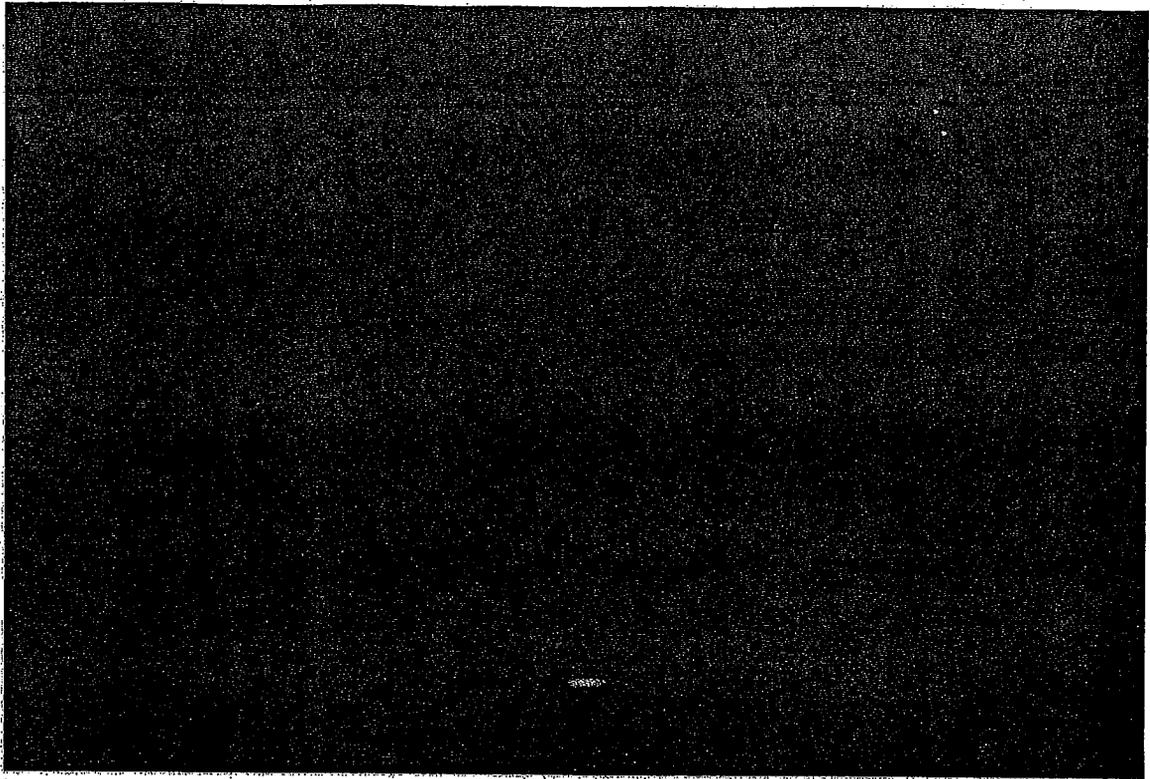












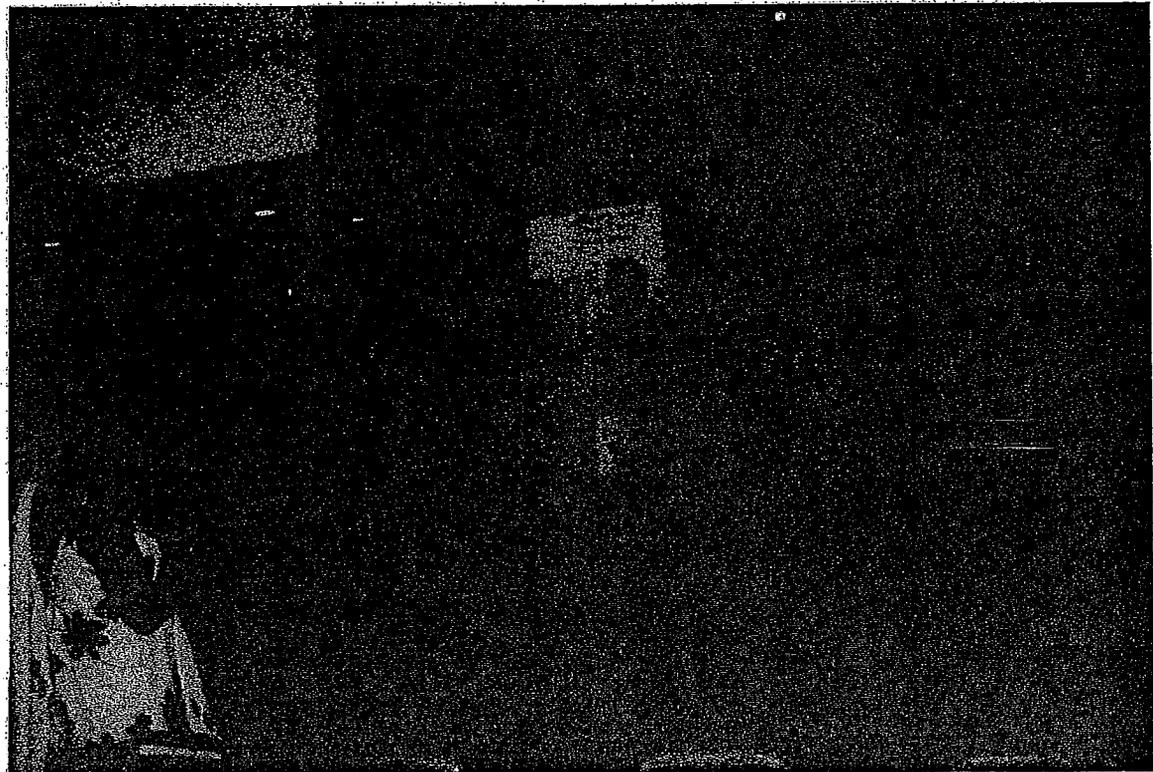
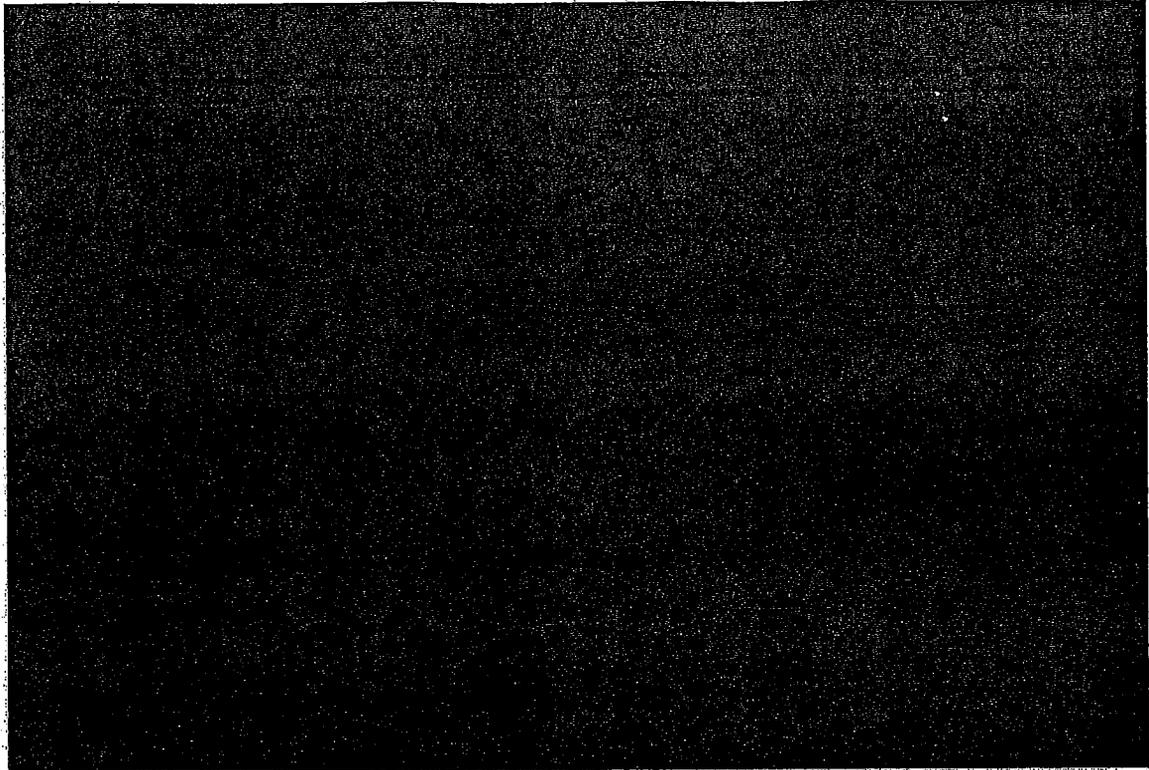


Exhibit 6

STROOCK

JOEL COHEN
DIRECT DIAL: 212-806-5644
DIRECT FAX: 212-806-2644
JCOHEN@STROOCK.COM

DANIELLE ALFONZO WALSMAN
DIRECT DIAL: 212-806-5607
DIRECT FAX: 212-806-2607
DWALSMAN@STROOCK.COM

May 18, 2009

BY EMAIL AND REGULAR MAIL

Mr. Leo Wise
Staff Director & Chief Counsel
Office of Congressional Ethics
United States House of Representatives
1017 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Request for Information, Review No. 09-2567

Dear Mr. Wise:

In response to your request for our clients' voluntary cooperation regarding your office's questions pertaining to the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (the "Conference"), we submit the following responses. Based upon our review of the questions and our multiple conversations with your office, we believe that these responses contain the information that you are seeking. As with our previous production, to the extent that the Freedom of Information Act is applicable to any submissions made to the Office of Congressional Ethics, our clients hereby request that the information provided be treated confidentially.

The Host country participated in the Conference as follows: (1) developed local Host Committees to facilitate local planning, (2) helped to negotiate the rate with the hotel, (3) assisted in developing the theme of the Conference, (4) assisted in identifying local speakers, including the Leader of Government, (5) assisted in local publicity, (6) provided local entertainment, including a school choir and cultural items, (7) arranged Host Country Evening on Friday, November 8 (the group was transported to another property for refreshments and entertainment), (8) helped with local transportation for some Carib News employees and helped arrange accommodations for some guests (not paying for such accommodations), (9) participated

09-3698 0080

Leo Wise, Esq.
May 18, 2009
Page 2

as event Speakers, and (10) issued invitations to attend to specially invited guests. The Host Country provided no funds towards the cost of the Conference.

The cost for members of the public to attend the conference for the four days and three nights was \$840.00 for double occupancy or \$1085.00 for single occupancy. The cost of attendance covered room accommodations, meals, and admission to the Conference presentations.

The attending Members of Congress participated in sessions relevant to their Committee assignments in Congress and demonstrated interest in a particular subject matter. For example, Congressman Bennie Thompson spoke at presentations on Hemispheric Security and Immigration/ Deportees, Congresswoman Donna Christensen spoke at a Town Hall Forum on Health, and Congressman Charles Rangel spoke at presentations on Haiti and the Caribbean, and the current crises facing them. In addition, all of the Members of Congress participated in a session with the local Ministers of Government to discuss issues of interest to the Caribbean region. Though correspondence with the Members of Congress indicated that a memo of the Closed Door Session would be distributed after the Conference, no such memo was ever drafted or distributed.

The total cost of the Conference approached \$300,000. These costs included direct expenses such as travel, event planner fees, local staffing, and hotel payments, as well as Carib News operating expenses for the purpose of the preparation and implementation of the Conference. The Conference costs were paid using (1) registration fees by the attending guests, (2) contributions from corporate participants, some to Carib News and others to Carib News Foundation, and (3) general funds of Carib News. Each of three sources of funding was pooled together to pay the various expenses.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please do not hesitate to call.

Very truly yours,



Joel Cohen

and



Danielle Alfonzo Walsman

09-3698 0081

Exhibit 7

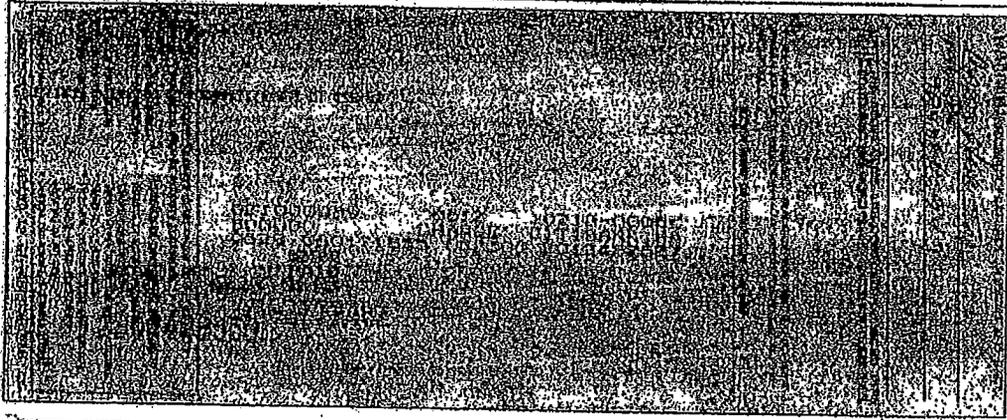


Citi Check Image Delivery

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- Check Image Inquiry Results

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	CITIGROUP BUSINESS SERVICES PAYMENT SERVICES 1100 CITIBANK CENTER DR. 0-3-4 TAMPA, FL 33610 CUSTOMER SERVICE (813) 801-1234	62-20 311	No. 0000611264 Date: 13-JUN-2008 Vendor No. 295513
	PAY TO THE ORDER OF CARIB NEWS INC \$50171835 07 052308. CHARGE 7 WEST 36TH STREET 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK NY 10018	75,000.00 NOT VALID AFTER 100 DAYS	
SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS			<i>Andrew Harwood</i>
<small>CITIBANK DELAWARE, A SUBSIDIARY OF CITIGROUP ONE PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NEWCASTLE, DE 19120</small>			
⑆5006611264⑆ ⑆031600209⑆ 38853877⑆ ⑆000750000⑆			





Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991: Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

April 04, 2008

Mr. Eric Eve
Senior Vice President
Community Relations
Global Consumer Group
Citigroup Inc.
850 Third Avenue, 12th floor
New York, NY 10022

Dear Mr. Eve: *Eric*

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

Your support and that of *CITI* went a long way to make the Conference a success, and has fostered on-going growth in business achievements and impactful policy decisions. We appreciate your encouragement, your personal participation, and the very stature your presence brings to the Conference. We do get concrete results and expressed appreciation of new opportunities.

We can assure you that all the key stakeholders, Members of Congress, Heads and Ministers of Government, Elected Officials, Community and Business Leaders are all aware and appreciative of yours and *CITI'S* participation in this very important mission.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. We know of your interest to deepen the *CITI* local, regional and global connections, and I know the Conference can achieve that. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

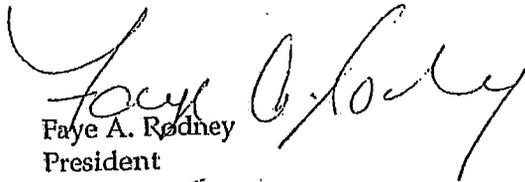
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We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail.
I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

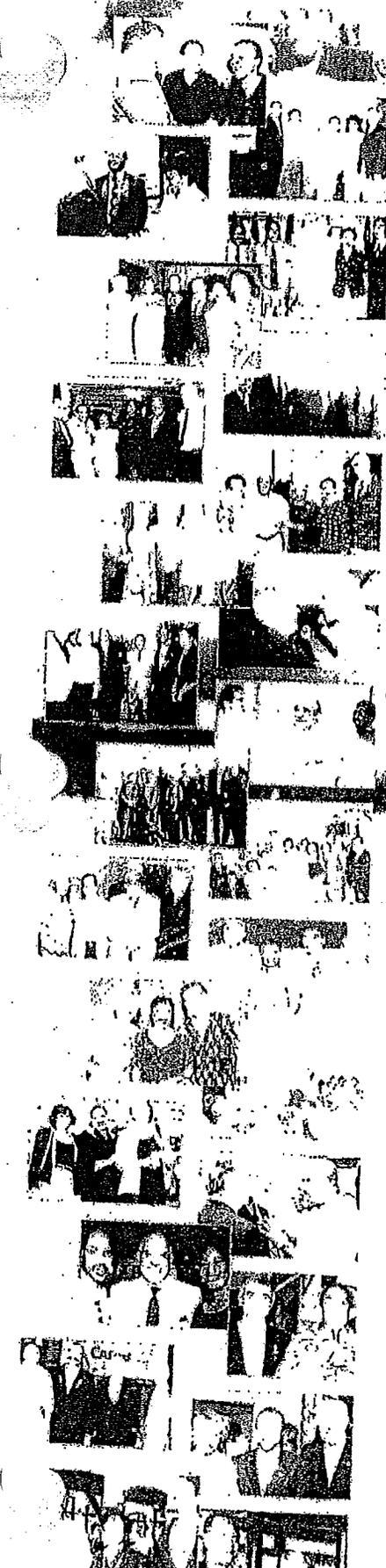
Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO



OPENING THE REGION

INVESTMENT & BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BUILDING THE GLOBAL NETWORK

**GOVERNMENT LEADERS - ELECTED OFFICIALS
IMPACTING ECONOMIC POLICIES**

PARTNERSHIPS

**CORPORATE EXECUTIVES - SEEKING
EXPANSION & GROWTH**

**DOING BUSINESS
TOGETHER**



“IMPACTFUL”

EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF THE



THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CARIBBEAN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

ST. MAARTEN

NOVEMBER 6 - 9, 2008

BUILDING KEY CONNECTIONS FOR GROWTH



THE MISSION

- ◆ To bring together businesses, community, and government leaders interested in understanding the economic opportunities in the Caribbean marketplace locally and in the Caribbean.
- ◆ To make a global community among Diverse Business entities and The Caribbean.
- ◆ To Link the emerging markets of the U.S and the Developing Economics of the Caribbean and Latin America.



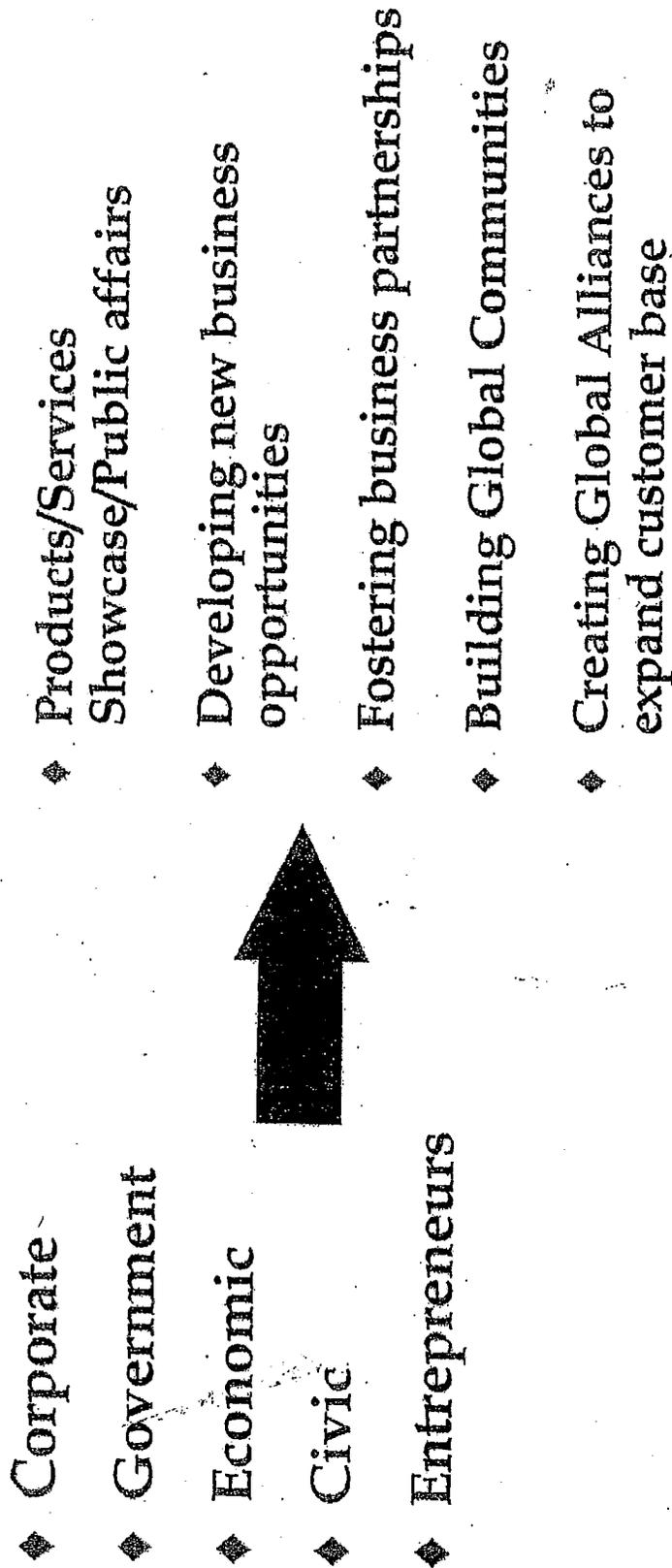
THE OPPORTUNITY

- ◆ **Marketing:** Understanding the market in the US and the Caribbean.
- ◆ **Business development:** Meeting potential customers and potential partners.
- ◆ **Strategic analysis:** Understanding the possibilities of emerging markets in the US and the Caribbean.
- ◆ **Corporate image:** Demonstrating your commitment to the Caribbean Community, and the program of diversity.
- ◆ **Community relations:** Establishing lasting relationships with key community leaders.
- ◆ **Government relations:** Meeting with and discussing topics of interest with significant elected officials from the US & the Caribbean.



CARBNEWS

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS



THE FACTS

- ◆ 31.9 billion US dollars in foreign investment Came into the Caribbean, up 36 percent from 1996.
- ◆ Tourism is the key economic foundation in the Caribbean. Approximately 11 million cruise passengers a year visit the Caribbean, providing Import/Export Opportunities.
- ◆ The Caribbean, in aggregate, is the 10th largest export market for the U.S, surpassing France and other countries, and providing opportunities for marketplace products.
- ◆ The \$15 billion market of the Caribbean American community and overseas



THE LEGACY

- ♦ Jamaica - 1996
- ♦ Barbados - 1997
- ♦ St. Lucia - 1998
- ♦ St. Croix/USVI - 1999
- ♦ Jamaica - 2000
- ♦ Grenada - 2001
- ♦ St. Maarten - 2002
- ♦ The Bahamas-2003
- ♦ St. Kitts-Nevis-2004
- ♦ ST. Thomas, USVI - 2005
- ♦ Panama city, panama - 2006
- ♦ Antigua & Barbuda - 2007

- ♦ Building Consumers Awareness
- ♦ Developing Working Alliances
- ♦ Reaching Defined Target Markets
- ♦ Making the Right Connections
- ♦ Expanding Diverse Market Places
- ♦ Successful Joint/Ventures
- ♦ Successful Regional Investments



CARIBNEWS

THE OVERVIEW

"Some companies have discovered that the Caribbean offers a great deal more than beautiful beaches and sunshine. They have recognized its tactical importance in this era of globalization. We are proud to provide a useful platform for companies that are seeking to sharpen their international competitiveness.

For the past twelve years, the Annual Multinational Business Conference has been creating links between the Caribbean, Central America and the U.S. Usually, during four days of workshops, luncheons and dinners, Caribbean Political Heads of State and Ministers of Government, Members of the Congressional Black Caucus, Local and Regional Politicians, business persons and influential individuals from the U.S. and the Caribbean discuss, interact and network around issues of mutual concern. Relationships are built and business deals are made.

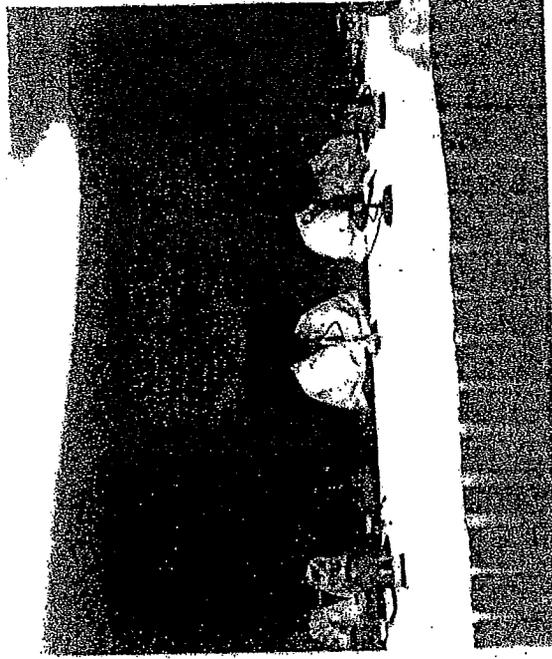
We hope that in 2008 you will join us"



PARTICIPATION

Platinum LEVEL - \$75,000

- ❖ Keynote Speaker at Main Event
- ❖ Sponsor Private VIP Reception and specially arranged forum
- ❖ Special Awards Presentation
- ❖ Display, Exhibition and signage
- ❖ Area of Conference -Reserved for exclusive sponsorship
- ❖ Full page Ad in program
- ❖ Air Transportation for 2 people
- ❖ Accommodations: One Suite and One Standard Room
- ❖ Included in all printed materials
- ❖ Included in Internet promotion
- ❖ Display company logo and link to our website
- ❖ Sponsor of a Gala Event
- ❖ Sponsor and Participate in a workshop
- ❖ Representative listed in program with bio and photo



PARTICIPATION

GOLD LEVEL - \$50,000

- ◆ Sponsor a Workshop
- ◆ Sponsor a Gala Event
- ◆ Display, Exhibition and signage
- ◆ Included in all Printed Material
- ◆ Included in all Internet Promotion
- ◆ Display of Company Logo and Link to Our Website
- ◆ Full Page Ad in Program
- ◆ Representation in the Brochure
- ◆ Air Transportation & room accommodations for 1



PARTICIPATION

SILVER LEVEL - \$25,000

- ◆ Sponsor & Participate in a Workshop
- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in all printed materials
- ◆ Included in Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Sponsor an event i.e. breakfast, lunch or dinner
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in program with bio & photos
- ◆ Representatives listed in brochure



PARTICIPATION

SUPPORTER

\$15,000

- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in all printed materials
- ◆ Included in Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in brochure
- ◆ Representatives listed in program with bio & photo

\$10,000

- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in some printed materials
- ◆ Included in some Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and 1/2 page in recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in program



Government Participation

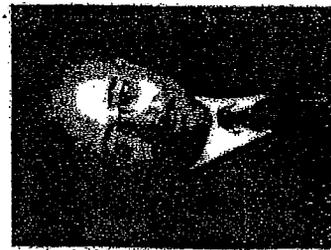


"This Conference is keeping us informed. There would never have been a banana problem had we (CBC) known about the issue before it went to the WTO."
Congressman Charles Rangel



"The Conference in Antigua with Members of the U.S. Congress was very important and extremely vital to both the U.S. and Caribbean interests. It highlighted the need for the Caribbean to pay greater attention to the role of Congress in the formulation of U.S. policy."
Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Prime Minister of Antigua



"The conference is central to the promotion of our mutual interests in the U.S. in general, New York City in particular, and the Caribbean. It is essential for all of us to work together to spur economic growth and social expansion at home and in our neighborhoods."
William Thompson, Comptroller, New York City

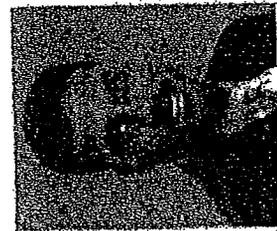


"The results of the Conference went far beyond our expectations. The process of bringing families together, of sharing a vision for our countries, couldn't have been scripted. The sessions brought out ideas, options and other benefits which should be long lasting."
Juan Carlos Navarro, Mayor, Panama City, Republic of Panama

Juan Carlos Navarro, Mayor, Panama City, Republic of Panama



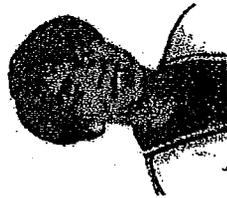
CORPORATE PARTICIPANTS



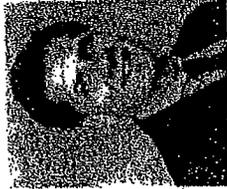
Eric Eve - SVP Community Relations, CHIFGROUP. "The time is ripe for Caribbean nations to come together and get on "the road," to articulate the strength of their economies and stability of their business climates. The Conference is a great place to start to open clear lines of communication between the private and public sectors of the Caribbean and the U.S."



Marilyn Johnson, VP Market Development, IBM Corporation - "IBM and its partner ENI Enterprise Network, through its presentation at the Conference, is taking the audience up through levels of technology, understanding the application of E-commerce. This conference makes a difference in the lives of the attendees."



Karen Boykin-Towns, Senior Director of Public Affairs. "The conference provides an ideal opportunity for Pfizer - it demonstrates its commitment to health forums internationally, but also to network with key decision makers. Collaboration is necessary between the Caribbean to make improvements and adjustments to healthcare and its delivery."



Edward J. Goldberg, SVP Government & Consumer Affairs, MACY'S - "We have whole files of opportunities to build business partnerships in the current corporate environment. The conference is conducive to exploring new areas of business, and we have taken advantage of this to both the region and MACY's benefit."

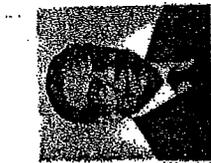


Marie Long, VP Constituency Relations, AT&T Foundation - "As many of you know, AT&T has changed in the last 5 years. Its growth, dynamism and change have created what some of us call the new AT&T. The real and driving force behind our success as a corporate entity is the culture of inclusion and collaboration. We recognize the great work being done at the conference to improve business and personal lives, exchange ideas, and assist alternative strategies that could lead to technology transfer and to growth."

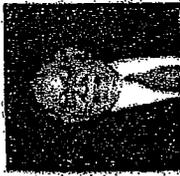


Javier Evaris, FVP Human Resources, HSBC Bank - "We provide financial services to a vast array of businesses and individuals, and this gives us a unique perspective on different cultures and ways of doing business. We want to engage our partners in mutually beneficial relationships within our communities and that is why we seize the opportunity to link with CARIB NEWS and the Conference. It is a tremendous value to us."

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES



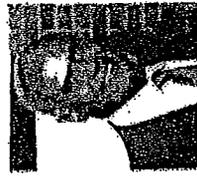
Ambassador Andrew Young
 "If only the sons and daughters of Africa will remember from whence they came, then our roots should be a constant reminder of who we are and where our countries can go with our input. This is why the Carib News Conference is so important and that is why I support it."



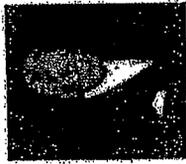
Hon. Percy Sutton
 "We badly needed a forum to address the need of us working together. This conference is an excellent idea and we should have been doing this long ago."



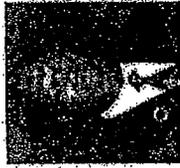
Hazel N. Dukes, President, New York State NAACP
 "The conferences, presenters and participants have been extraordinary. I have gained tremendous knowledge on the Caribbean Diaspora. I continue to promote and foster relationships with communities here and at home"



Harry Belafonte, Entertainer
 "The Conference is like a table set with a feast of great ideas provided by some of the best minds. The table is set - it is for us to partake"



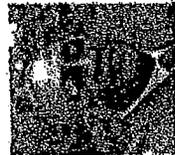
David Dinkins, Former Mayor of New York City
 "Education is the very key for the development of our people. I have always held that position; that is why I am so pleased to participate in the Education Forum at the Conference. There is an eagerness on the part of the audience to know more about our system. The collaborative effort of CARIB NEWS and the Conference wins my support".



Roy Hastick, President/CEO Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce
 "The work of the Conference is legendary in the Caribbean and the U.S. Where else do you find this level of leadership from all sectors coming together to advance doing business. It is the most effective way of building a Global Network".



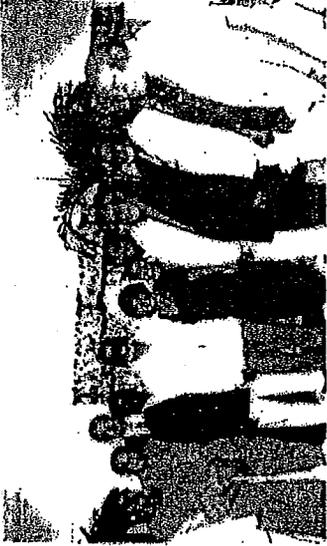
Susan Taylor, Editor Emeritus, Essence Magazine
 "It is always so wonderful to experience the drive, enthusiasm and determination of the Conference participants. It says something wonderful is happening and we all need to tap into it. It provides such outstanding opportunities to connect with real people who can make things happen".



Lloyd Williams, President/CEO Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce
 "I have always advocated cross-border business opportunities for the Chamber members, and that is why for the entire twelve years of the conference, the Chamber has made it a priority event. Our members have reaped the benefits and have also made great contributions".



INVEST IN SUCCESS



A WEEK-END THAT CHANGES
LIVES

'EXPERIENCE THE POWER'



Exhibit 8

Board
David Skaggs, Chair Porter Goss, Co-Chair
Yvonne Burke Jay Eagen
Karan English William Frenzel
Allison Hayward Abner Mikva



Leo J. Wise, Staff Director & Chief Counsel
1017 Longworth House Office Building
(202) 225-9739
(202) 226-0997 fax
email address: pce@mail.house.gov
website address: oce.house.gov

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

Mr. Frank Weber
Internal Revenue Service
Freedom of Information Reading Room
1111 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20224

March 31, 2009

Dear Mr. Weber,

Thank you for talking with me this afternoon and for offering to help me with this request. I need to know if Carib News Charities filed a 990-PF for tax years 2006, 2007, and 2008 (I have included tax year 2008 in the event that the foundation filed before the filing deadline). I understand that the organization is not required to file if it did not receive donations in excess of \$25,000. If the foundation has filed a 990-PF for 2006, 2007, or 2008, we would like to have a copy of the tax form(s). In the event that it takes several days, weeks, or months to receive the requested copies, it would be helpful to have an answer to the question whether the organization has filed and for what year(s) tax form(s) exist.

It is our understanding that the organization also does business as Carib News Foundation; however, Carib News Foundation is not found in Publication 78.

My telephone number is 202-225-9739 and my email is Elizabeth.horton@mail.house.gov. Thank you again for your help with this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Horton".

Elizabeth Horton

Request for Public Inspection or Copy of Exempt or Political Organization IRS Form

▶ Type or print clearly. Request may be rejected if the form is incomplete or illegible.



You may not have to complete Form 4506-A to get the copies you need.

- **Internet.** Form 8871, Political Organization Notice of Section 527 Status, and Form 8872, Political Organization Report of Contributions and Expenditures, are available for inspection and printing from the Internet. The website address for both forms is www.irs.gov/polorgs.
- **Public disclosure by the organization.** Exempt or political organizations must make their returns, reports, notices, and exempt applications available for public inspection. You can visit the organization to inspect the material instead of requesting it from the IRS. The organization may be able to mail the copies to you.

1 **Exempt or political organization.** If a multiple request, please attach list of names, forms, and tax years.

Name <u>CARIB NEWS CHARITIES</u>	Employer identification number (if known) <u>13 : 3632050</u>
Address <u>7 WEST 36th STREET, FLOOR 8</u>	
City or town, state, and ZIP code <u>NEW YORK, NY 10018</u>	

2 **Requester**

Name <u>OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS</u>	Contact person <u>ELIZABETH HORTON</u>
Address <u>1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING</u>	Phone <u>(202) 225-9739</u>
City or town, state, and ZIP code <u>WASHINGTON, DC 20515</u>	Date <u>3/31/09</u>

3 **Category of requester:** Commercial user Non-commercial scientific institution
You must check a box. Educational institution Media All others

4 **Reason for request.** All requesters except for commercial users must provide an explanation of how the records will be used to avoid being charged the commercial rate. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

TO CONFIRM WHETHER FOUNDATION RECEIVED FUNDING IN
TAX YEARS 2006, 2007, 2008

Lines 5-9. For each applicable form, check the box(es) for the item(s) you are requesting. You may request more than one form. For each form requested, check either the copy, inspection, or CD/DVD box and enter the specific tax year(s), as indicated. If ordering a partial set on CD/DVD, indicate the format, state(s), and month(s) requested.

5 Form 990, Form 990-EZ
 Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: _____

CD/DVD Format: Alchemy Raw
 State(s): _____; _____; _____
 Months: _____; _____; _____

6 Form 990-PF
 Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: 2006, 2007, 2008 (if filed)

CD/DVD Format: Alchemy Raw
 State(s): _____; _____; _____
 Months: _____; _____; _____

7 Form 990-T (501(c)(3) organizations filed after 8/17/2006)
 Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: _____; _____; _____

CD/DVD Format: Alchemy Raw
 State(s): _____; _____; _____
 Months: _____; _____; _____

8 Form 5227
 Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: _____; _____; _____

9 Form 1023, 1024 or Determination Letter
 Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: _____; _____; _____

IRS Use Only

The form requested above was inspected by (name of requester)	IRS office where inspection was made
Signature of employee present at inspection	Date

OGDEN UT 84201-0058

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
ATTN: ELIZABETH HORTON
1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515

CUT OUT AND RETURN THE VOUCHER AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE IF YOU ARE MAKING A PAYMENT,
EVEN IF YOU ALSO HAVE AN INQUIRY.

The IRS address must appear in the window:

BODCD-TE

0412606945

Use for payments

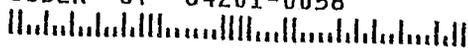
Letter Number: LTR3983C
Letter Date : 2009-04-17
Tax Period : 000000



133632050

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

OGDEN UT 84201-0058



OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
ATTN: ELIZABETH HORTON
1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515

OGDEN UT 84201-0058

In reply refer to: 0412606945
Apr. 17, 2009 LTR 3983C E1
13-3632050 000000 00 000
.00027842
BODC: TE

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
ATTN: ELIZABETH HORTON
1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515

Taxpayer Identification Number: 13-3632050
Organization: Carib News Charities, Inc.

Form(s): 990PF

Tax Period(s): May 31, 2006 May 31, 2007
May 31, 2008

Dear Requester:

We received your Mar. 31, 2009, request for a copy of the Form(s) 990PF relating to the organization(s) identified above. Enclosed is a copy of the form(s) you requested. We are unable to provide a copy of the form(s) requested for the following tax period(s):

May 31, 2006

We regret that we can not provide a photocopy of return(s) for the organization(s) and year(s) you requested. There are a variety of reasons why these returns are not available, for example:

- the organization may not be required to file the requested return because its gross receipts are \$25,000 or less.
- the organization may be included in a group ruling and the parent may have filed a group return.
- the organization may have received an extension of time to file.
- processing of the organization's return may not be complete.
- return(s) are destroyed after a certain number of tax years.
- the organization may not be required to file.

If you have any questions, please write us at the address shown at the top of the first page of this letter. Or, you may call us toll free at 1-877-829-5500.

Whenever you write, please include this letter and, in the spaces below, give us your telephone number with the hours we can reach you. Please keep a copy of this letter for your records.

Telephone Number () _____ Hours _____

Form **990-PF**

Return of Private Foundation
or Section 4947(a)(1) Nonexempt Charitable Trust
Treated as a Private Foundation

OMB No 1545-0052

2005

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Note: The organization may be able to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements

For calendar year 2005, or tax year beginning **June 1**, 2005, and ending **May 31**, 20 **06**

G Check all that apply. Initial return Final return Amended return Address change Name change

Use the IRS label. Otherwise, print or type. See Specific Instructions.	Name of organization Carib News Charities Inc		A Employer identification number 13:3632050
	Number and street (or P O box number if mail is not delivered to street address)	Room/suite	B Telephone number (see page 10 of the instructions)
	15 West 39th Street	13	()
City or town, state, and ZIP code New York, NY 10018		C If exemption application is pending, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	
H Check type of organization: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Section 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation <input type="checkbox"/> Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust <input type="checkbox"/> Other taxable private foundation		D 1. Foreign organizations, check here <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Foreign organizations meeting the 85% test, check here and attach computation <input type="checkbox"/>	
I Fair market value of all assets at end of year (from Part II, col. (c), line 16) \blacktriangleright \$	J Accounting method: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ (Part I, column (d) must be on cash basis)		E If private foundation status was terminated under section 507(b)(1)(A), check here <input type="checkbox"/> F If the foundation is in a 60-month termination under section 507(b)(1)(B), check here <input type="checkbox"/>

Part I Analysis of Revenue and Expenses (The total of amounts in columns (b), (c), and (d) may not necessarily equal the amounts in column (a) (see page 11 of the instructions))		(a) Revenue and expenses per books	(b) Net investment income	(c) Adjusted net income	(d) Disbursements for charitable purposes (cash basis only)
Revenue	1 Contributions, gifts, grants, etc., received (attach schedule)				
	2 Check <input type="checkbox"/> if the foundation is not required to attach Sch B				
	3 Interest on savings and temporary cash investments				
	4 Dividends and interest from securities				
	5a Gross rents				
	b Net rental income or (loss)				
	6a Net gain or (loss) from sale of assets not on line 10				
	b Gross sales price for all assets on line 6a				
	7 Capital gain net income (from Part IV, line 2)				
	8 Net short-term capital gain				
	9 Income modifications				
	10a Gross sales less returns and allowances				
b Less: Cost of goods sold					
c Gross profit or (loss) (attach schedule)					
11 Other income (attach schedule)					
12 Total. Add lines 1 through 11					
Operating and Administrative Expenses	13 Compensation of officers, directors, trustees, etc				
	14 Other employee salaries and wages				
	15 Pension plans, employee benefits				
	16a Legal fees (attach schedule)				
	b Accounting fees (attach schedule)				
	c Other professional fees (attach schedule)				
	17 Interest				
	18 Taxes (attach schedule) (see page 14 of the instructions)				
	19 Depreciation (attach schedule) and depletion				
	20 Occupancy				
	21 Travel, conferences, and meetings				
	22 Printing and publications				
	23 Other expenses (attach schedule)				
	24 Total operating and administrative expenses. Add lines 13 through 23				
	25 Contributions, gifts, grants paid				
26 Total expenses and disbursements. Add lines 24 and 25					
27 Subtract line 26 from line 12:					
a Excess of revenue over expenses and disbursements					
b Net investment income (if negative, enter -0-)					
c Adjusted net income (if negative, enter -0-)					

RECEIVED IN CORR
IRS - OSC - 645
AUG 27 2007
OGDEN, UTAH

Process as org

04232004 225505 2007

SCANNED JAN 15 2008
Operating and Administrative Expenses

docs

For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions.

Cat No 11289X

Form 990-PF (2005)

09-3698 0108

61,13 12

Part II Balance Sheets		Attached schedules and amounts in the description column should be for end-of-year amounts only (See instructions)		Beginning of year	End of year	
		(a) Book Value	(b) Book Value	(c) Fair Market Value		
Assets	1	Cash—non-interest-bearing		0		0
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments				
	3	Accounts receivable				
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts				
	4	Pledges receivable				
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts				
	5	Grants receivable				
	6	Receivables due from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons (attach schedule) (see page 15 of the instructions)				
	7	Other notes and loans receivable (attach schedule)				
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts				
	8	Inventories for sale or use				
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges				
	10a	Investments—U S and state government obligations (attach schedule)				
	b	Investments—corporate stock (attach schedule)				
	c	Investments—corporate bonds (attach schedule)				
	11	Investments—land, buildings, and equipment basis				
	Less: accumulated depreciation (attach schedule)					
12	Investments—mortgage loans					
13	Investments—other (attach schedule)					
14	Land, buildings, and equipment: basis					
	Less: accumulated depreciation (attach schedule)					
15	Other assets (describe)					
16	Total assets (to be completed by all filers—see page 16 of the instructions. Also, see page 1, item 1)					
Liabilities	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses		0	0	
	18	Grants payable				
	19	Deferred revenue				
	20	Loans from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons				
	21	Mortgages and other notes payable (attach schedule)				
	22	Other liabilities (describe)				
23	Total liabilities (add lines 17 through 22)					
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117, check here and complete lines 24 through 26 and lines 30 and 31. <input type="checkbox"/>					
	24	Unrestricted				
	25	Temporarily restricted				
	26	Permanently restricted				
	Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here and complete lines 27 through 31. <input type="checkbox"/>					
	27	Capital stock, trust principal, or current funds				
	28	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, bldg., and equipment fund				
	29	Retained earnings, accumulated income, endowment, or other funds				
	30	Total net assets or fund balances (see page 17 of the instructions)			0	0
31	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances (see page 17 of the instructions)			0	0	

Part III Analysis of Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances		
1	Total net assets or fund balances at beginning of year—Part II, column (a), line 30 (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	1 0
2	Enter amount from Part I, line 27a	2
3	Other increases not included in line 2 (itemize)	3
4	Add lines 1, 2, and 3	4
5	Decreases not included in line 2 (itemize)	5
6	Total net assets or fund balances at end of year (line 4 minus line 5)—Part II, column (b), line 30	6 0

Part IV Capital Gains and Losses for Tax on Investment Income

(a) List and describe the kind(s) of property sold (e.g., real estate, 2-story brick warehouse, or common stock, 200 shs MLC Co)		(b) How acquired P—Purchase D—Donation	(c) Date acquired (mo., day, yr.)	(d) Date sold (mo., day, yr.)
1a				
b				
c				
d				
e				

(e) Gross sales price	(f) Depreciation allowed (or allowable)	(g) Cost or other basis plus expense of sale	(h) Gain or (loss) (e) plus (f) minus (g)
a			
b			
c			
d			
e			

Complete only for assets showing gain in column (h) and owned by the foundation on 12/31/69

(i) FMV as of 12/31/69	(j) Adjusted basis as of 12/31/69	(k) Excess of col (i) over col (j), if any	(l) Gains (Col (h) gain minus col (k), but not less than -0-) or Losses (from col (h))
a			
b			
c			
d			
e			

2 Capital gain net income or (net capital loss) { If gain, also enter in Part I, line 2 If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 2 }	2
3 Net short-term capital gain or (loss) as defined in sections 1222(5) and (6). If gain, also enter in Part I, line 8, column (c) (see pages 13 and 17 of the instructions). If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 8.	3

Part V Qualification Under Section 4940(e) for Reduced Tax on Net Investment Income

(For optional use by domestic private foundations subject to the section 4940(a) tax on net investment income.)

If section 4940(d)(2) applies, leave this part blank.

Was the organization liable for the section 4942 tax on the distributable amount of any year in the base period? Yes No
If "Yes," the organization does not qualify under section 4940(e). Do not complete this part

1 Enter the appropriate amount in each column for each year; see page 18 of the instructions before making any entries.

(a) Base period years Calendar year (or tax year beginning in)	(b) Adjusted qualifying distributions	(c) Net value of noncharitable-use assets	(d) Distribution ratio (col (b) divided by col (c))
2004			
2003			
2002			
2001			
2000			

2 Total of line 1, column (d)	2
3 Average distribution ratio for the 5-year base period—divide the total on line 2 by 5, or by the number of years the foundation has been in existence if less than 5 years	3
4 Enter the net value of noncharitable-use assets for 2005 from Part X, line 5	4
5 Multiply line 4 by line 3	5
6 Enter 1% of net investment income (1% of Part I, line 27b)	6
7 Add lines 5 and 6	7
8 Enter qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 If line 8 is equal to or greater than line 7, check the box in Part VI, line 1b, and complete that part using a 1% tax rate. See the Part VI instructions on page 18.	8

Part VI Excise Tax Based on Investment Income (Section 4940(a), 4940(b), 4940(e), or 4948—see page 18 of the instructions)

1a	Exempt operating foundations described in section 4940(d)(2), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter "N/A" on line 1. Date of ruling letter: (attach copy of ruling letter if necessary—see instructions)			
b	Domestic organizations that meet the section 4940(e) requirements in Part V, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter 1% of Part I, line 27b.	1		
c	All other domestic organizations enter 2% of line 27b. Exempt foreign organizations enter 4% of Part I, line 12, col. (b).			
2	Tax under section 511 (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-)	2		
3	Add lines 1 and 2.	3		
4	Subtitle A (income) tax (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-)	4		
5	Tax based on investment income. Subtract line 4 from line 3. If zero or less, enter -0-	5		
6	Credits/Payments.			
a	2005 estimated tax payments and 2004 overpayment credited to 2005	6a		
b	Exempt foreign organizations—tax withheld at source	6b		
c	Tax paid with application for extension of time to file (Form 8868)	6c		
d	Backup withholding erroneously withheld.	6d		
7	Total credits and payments. Add lines 6a through 6d.	7		
8	Enter any penalty for underpayment of estimated tax. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if Form 2220 is attached.	8		
9	Tax due. If the total of lines 5 and 8 is more than line 7, enter amount owed	9		
10	Overpayment. If line 7 is more than the total of lines 5 and 8, enter the amount overpaid.	10		
11	Enter the amount of line 10 to be Credited to 2005 estimated tax <input type="checkbox"/> Refunded <input type="checkbox"/>	11		

Part VII-A Statements Regarding Activities

	Yes	No
1a		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1b		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1c		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4a		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4b		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8b		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

13 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-PF in lieu of Form 1041—Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year 13

Part VII-B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required

File Form 4720 if any item is checked in the "Yes" column, unless an exception applies.

	Yes	No
1a During the year did the organization (either directly or indirectly):		
(1) Engage in the sale or exchange, or leasing of property with a disqualified person? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(2) Borrow money from, lend money to, or otherwise extend credit to (or accept it from) a disqualified person? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(3) Furnish goods, services, or facilities to (or accept them from) a disqualified person? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(4) Pay compensation to, or pay or reimburse the expenses of, a disqualified person? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(5) Transfer any income or assets to a disqualified person (or make any of either available for the benefit or use of a disqualified person)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(6) Agree to pay money or property to a government official? (Exception. Check "No" if the organization agreed to make a grant to or to employ the official for a period after termination of government service, if terminating within 90 days.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
b If any answer is "Yes" to 1a(1)-(6), did any of the acts fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4941(d)-3 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see page 20 of the instructions)? Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance check here <input type="checkbox"/>	1b	X
c Did the organization engage in a prior year in any of the acts described in 1a, other than excepted acts, that were not corrected before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2005? <input type="checkbox"/>	1c	X
2 Taxes on failure to distribute income (section 4942) (does not apply for years the organization was a private operating foundation defined in section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5)):		
a At the end of tax year 2005, did the organization have any undistributed income (lines 6d and 6e, Part XIII) for tax year(s) beginning before 2005? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "Yes," list the years <input type="checkbox"/> 20....., 20....., 20....., 20.....		
b Are there any years listed in 2a for which the organization is not applying the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) (relating to incorrect valuation of assets) to the year's undistributed income? (If applying section 4942(a)(2) to all years listed, answer "No" and attach statement—see page 20 of the instructions.) <input type="checkbox"/>	2b	X
c If the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) are being applied to any of the years listed in 2a, list the years here. <input type="checkbox"/> 20....., 20....., 20....., 20.....		
3a Did the organization hold more than a 2% direct or indirect interest in any business enterprise at any time during the year? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
b If "Yes," did it have excess business holdings in 2005 as a result of (1) any purchase by the organization or disqualified persons after May 26, 1969; (2) the lapse of the 5-year period (or longer period approved by the Commissioner under section 4943(c)(7)) to dispose of holdings acquired by gift or bequest; or (3) the lapse of the 10-, 15-, or 20-year first phase holding period? (Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine if the organization had excess business holdings in 2005.) <input type="checkbox"/>	3b	X
4a Did the organization invest during the year any amount in a manner that would jeopardize its charitable purposes? <input type="checkbox"/>	4a	X
b Did the organization make any investment in a prior year (but after December 31, 1969) that could jeopardize its charitable purpose that had not been removed from jeopardy before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2005? <input type="checkbox"/>	4b	X
5a During the year did the organization pay or incur any amount to:		
(1) Carry on propaganda, or otherwise attempt to influence legislation (section 4945(e))? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(2) Influence the outcome of any specific public election (see section 4955); or to carry on, directly or indirectly, any voter registration drive? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(3) Provide a grant to an individual for travel, study, or other similar purposes? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(4) Provide a grant to an organization other than a charitable, etc., organization described in section 509(a)(1), (2), or (3), or section 4940(d)(2)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(5) Provide for any purpose other than religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
b If any answer is "Yes" to 5a(1)-(5), did any of the transactions fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4945 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see page 20 of the instructions)? Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance check here <input type="checkbox"/>	5b	X
c If the answer is "Yes" to question 5a(4), does the organization claim exemption from the tax because it maintained expenditure responsibility for the grant? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "Yes," attach the statement required by Regulations section 53.4945-5(d).		
6a Did the organization, during the year, receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
b Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If you answered "Yes" to 6b, also file Form 8870	6b	X

Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors

1 List all officers, directors, trustees, foundation managers and their compensation (see page 21 of the instructions).

(a) Name and address	(b) Title, and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				

2 Compensation of five highest-paid employees (other than those included on line 1—see page 21 of the instructions). If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$50,000	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
NONE				
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				

Total number of other employees paid over \$50,000. ▶

3 Five highest-paid independent contractors for professional services—(see page 21 of the instructions). If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each person paid more than \$50,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
NONE		
.....		
.....		
.....		
.....		
.....		

Total number of others receiving over \$50,000 for professional services ▶

Part IX-A Summary of Direct Charitable Activities

List the foundation's four largest direct charitable activities during the tax year. Include relevant statistical information such as the number of organizations and other beneficiaries served, conferences convened, research papers produced, etc

	Expenses
1 none	
2	
3	
4	

Part IX-B Summary of Program-Related Investments (see page 22 of the instructions)

Describe the two largest program-related investments made by the foundation during the tax year on lines 1 and 2		Amount
1	
2	
All other program-related investments See page 22 of the instructions		
3	
Total. Add lines 1 through 3		

Part X Minimum Investment Return (All domestic foundations must complete this part. Foreign foundations, see page 22 of the instructions.)

1	Fair market value of assets not used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes:	
a	Average monthly fair market value of securities	1a
b	Average of monthly cash balances	1b
c	Fair market value of all other assets (see page 23 of the instructions)	1c
d	Total (add lines 1a, b, and c)	1d
e	Reduction claimed for blockage or other factors reported on lines 1a and 1c (attach detailed explanation)	1e
2	Acquisition indebtedness applicable to line 1 assets	2
3	Subtract line 2 from line 1d	3
4	Cash deemed held for charitable activities. Enter 1½% of line 3 (for greater amount, see page 23 of the instructions)	4
5	Net value of noncharitable-use assets. Subtract line 4 from line 3 (Enter here and on Part V, line 4)	5
6	Minimum investment return. Enter 5% of line 5	6

Part XI Distributable Amount (see page 23 of the instructions) (Section 4942(j)(3) and (j)(5) private operating foundations and certain foreign organizations check here and do not complete this part.)

1	Minimum investment return from Part X, line 6	1
2a	Tax on investment income for 2005 from Part VI, line 5	2a
b	Income tax for 2005. (This does not include the tax from Part VI.)	2b
c	Add lines 2a and 2b	2c
3	Distributable amount before adjustments Subtract line 2c from line 1	3
4	Recoveries of amounts treated as qualifying distributions	4
5	Add lines 3 and 4	5
6	Deduction from distributable amount (see page 24 of the instructions)	6
7	Distributable amount as adjusted. Subtract line 6 from line 5. Enter here and on Part XIII, line 1	7

Part XII Qualifying Distributions (see page 24 of the instructions)

1	Amounts paid (including administrative expenses) to accomplish charitable, etc., purposes:	
a	Expenses, contributions, gifts, etc.—total from Part I, column (d), line 26	1a
b	Program-related investments—total from Part IX-B	1b
2	Amounts paid to acquire assets used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes	2
3	Amounts set aside for specific charitable projects that satisfy the:	
a	Suitability test (prior IRS approval required)	3a
b	Cash distribution test (attach the required schedule)	3b
4	Qualifying distributions. Add lines 1a through 3b. Enter here and on Part V, line 8, and Part XIII, line 4	4
5	Organizations that qualify under section 4940(e) for the reduced rate of tax on net investment income. Enter 1% of Part I, line 27b (see page 24 of the instructions)	5
6	Adjusted qualifying distributions. Subtract line 5 from line 4	6

Note: The amount on line 6 will be used in Part V, column (b), in subsequent years when calculating whether the foundation qualifies for the section 4940(e) reduction of tax in those years.

Part XIII Undistributed Income (see page 24 of the instructions)

	(a) Corpus	(b) Years prior to 2004	(c) 2004	(d) 2005
1 Distributable amount for 2005 from Part XI, line 7				
2 Undistributed income, if any, as of the end of 2004:				
a Enter amount for 2004 only				
b Total for prior years: 20____, 20____, 20____				
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2005:				
a From 2000				
b From 2001				
c From 2002				
d From 2003				
e From 2004				
f Total of lines 3a through e.				
4 Qualifying distributions for 2005 from Part XII, line 4: ▶ \$ _____				
a Applied to 2004, but not more than line 2a				
b Applied to undistributed income of prior years (Election required—see page 25 of the instructions)				
c Treated as distributions out of corpus (Election required—see page 25 of the instructions)				
d Applied to 2005 distributable amount				
e Remaining amount distributed out of corpus				
5 Excess distributions carryover applied to 2005 (If an amount appears in column (d), the same amount must be shown in column (a).)				
6 Enter the net total of each column as indicated below:				
a Corpus. Add lines 3f, 4c, and 4e. Subtract line 5				
b Prior years' undistributed income. Subtract line 4b from line 2b				
c Enter the amount of prior years' undistributed income for which a notice of deficiency has been issued, or on which the section 4942(a) tax has been previously assessed				
d Subtract line 6c from line 6b. Taxable amount—see page 25 of the instructions				
e Undistributed income for 2004. Subtract line 4a from line 2a. Taxable amount—see page 25 of the instructions				
f Undistributed income for 2005. Subtract lines 4d and 5 from line 1. This amount must be distributed in 2006				
7 Amounts treated as distributions out of corpus to satisfy requirements imposed by section 170(b)(1)(E) or 4942(g)(3) (see page 25 of the instructions)				
8 Excess distributions carryover from 2000 not applied on line 5 or line 7 (see page 25 of the instructions)				
9 Excess distributions carryover to 2006. Subtract lines 7 and 8 from line 6a				
10 Analysis of line 9:				
a Excess from 2001				
b Excess from 2002				
c Excess from 2003				
d Excess from 2004				
e Excess from 2005				

002669

Part XV Supplementary Information (continued)

3 Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment

Recipient	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution	Amount
a Paid during the year				
Total				▶ 3a
b Approved for future payment				
Total				▶ 3b

100266972



Search for Charities, Online Version of Publication 78 Search Results

Organization

Name Includes **Carib Charities**

At least one of the words
 All of the words

Location

City State All... Country USA

Deductibility Code

Deductibility Code All...

[Begin New Search](#) [Search Tips](#)

Show 25 « Prev | 1-1 | Next »

Name ▲	City	State	Country	Code
Carib News Charities Inc.	New York	NY	USA	4

« Prev | 1-1 | Next »



Deductibility Code

Publication 78 uses a coding system to identify each organization listed by type and limitation on deductibility of charitable contributions to the organization. The code(s) displayed depend(s) on the code for which the organization qualifies. In cases where an organization has multiple deductibility codes, only the definition for each applicable deductibility code is displayed.

Code	Meaning
4	A private foundation, generally with a 30% deductibility limitation.

Close

09-3698 0119.2

Exhibit 9

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OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative of IBM, Vice President Market Development, IBM
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: May 8, 2009
Location: IBM Offices, Washington, D.C.
Participants: Leo Wise
Beth Horton
Lisa Palluconi, Counsel for Government Programs for IBM
Adrienne G. Rhone, Director Governmental Programs

Summary: The Representative of IBM is the Vice President of Market Development for IBM. She was interviewed pursuant to Reviews 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. The Representative of IBM helped arrange IBM's participation at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008; she also participated at the event. We requested an interview with the Representative of IBM and she consented to an interview. The Representative of IBM made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. The Representative of IBM was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and she signed a written acknowledgement of the warning.
2. She attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008.
3. She attended the conference to extend IBM to areas that were not currently being served. She focuses on the Caribbean because of her division at IBM which is women and minorities. The Caribbean is an underdeveloped business unit for IBM.

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4. She first attended the conference in 2004, as a participant, to see if the conference would be a good fit for IBM to participate at as a sponsor.
5. IBM was an entry level sponsor in '05.
6. She dealt with Faye Rodney on conference matters.
7. After her attendance in '05, she received a thank you letter signed by the Rodneys that asked IBM to be a sponsor at the '06 conference.
8. IBM participated at the '05, '06, '07 and '08 conference.
9. The Rodneys continued their prior practice and sent a thank you letter with a request for sponsorship after the '07 conference for IBM to participate at the '08 conference.
10. The letter was sent to the Operations Executive and the decision to participate was decided as a team. Colin Ward, with ENI Systems, is one of IBM's business partners who also went to the conference.
11. The letter is the first communication regarding the conference.
12. After the letter is received, the team manager negotiates participation at the conference. Negotiations included timing of sessions (day/time). She requested Friday, right before or right after lunch, for the IBM session. It was important to have attendance by individuals interested in technology.
13. She also agreed to moderate the women's breakfast sponsored by Macy's.
14. The team manager would have worked with the Rodneys regarding the break-out sessions.
15. IBM controlled its own content for the session(s).
16. The first year IBM sponsored the conference, the sponsorship level was \$10,000. IBM sponsored the conference the following year at \$15,000, and in '08 the sponsorship went up to \$20,000 after IBM received a request from Faye Rodney for an increase. The Representative of IBM initially counter-offered \$18,000 but agreed to the \$20,000 at the urging of Ms. Rodney.
17. IBM has a methodical way of approving conference sponsorships. The letter from the Rodneys was received in July.

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18. She approved the check for the purchase order and released the check. Carib would have received the check in August or September.
19. After the check is released, she and the business partner collaborate on the content of session.
20. She and the business partner attended the conference.
21. She has only seen the Rodneys at the conference. She has been invited to other events but has not accepted the invitations.
22. She received a call from Mr. Rodney about the article on the conference.
23. She had no knowledge of the Foundation until this matter.
24. She understood Carib News to be the sponsor.
25. The \$20,000 level of sponsorship is low for IBM in general. However, it is worth the presence and branding for small the small business unit practice.
26. She thought IBM's sponsorship was of the conference, she did not know the Foundation existed until this issue arose. Her department does not give to non-profit organizations, only to businesses.
27. The only parameters placed on the money for the conference was with respect to time slots and length of the sessions.
28. She tells her team her preferences and the team works out the specifics with Carib.
29. She does not recall seeing a specific document that listed the various levels of sponsorship.
30. Carib News provides the framework for the conference. Then she typically tells Carib what she wants and what they will pay. She was aware from the signage that other companies were larger sponsors.
31. She arrived at the conference on Thursday and attended the opening reception. She attended a reception on Friday that was hosted by Citi and a breakout session.
32. She noticed names of entities on the agenda from the web that she knew were not at the conference.

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33. She noted that the agenda also listed her breakout session on Saturday which was inaccurate. Her session was on Friday, so she knew the agenda could not have been the final agenda.
34. She seemed to recall seeing the agenda that was submitted to Standards. She noted that the 12:00pm session was accurate, but that she did not believe that the breakout listed on Saturday was accurate.
35. She attended the Macy's breakfast on Saturday morning because it is a popular event. She noted who was on the breakfast panel and who was not (names were listed on agenda). Michelle Patterson did not speak, Burnice Johnson was not on the panel and she was not sure if she even attended the conference.
36. She saw several of the Members who attended the conference. She was on the same flight as Representative Payne. She spoke to Representative Rangel at the reception. Representative Kilpatrick was on a panel with her. And Representative Thompson road to an off-sight event with her. She was sure that she spoke to Delegate Christensen. And she spoke to Sheila Jackson Lee at the awards night.
37. The off-sight event was held at a separate hotel, it included local talent and a comedienne.
38. She stated that Members did not attend the breakout sessions.
39. She had a conversation with Rep. Thompson regarding the election.
40. She left the conference on Sunday morning by 7:00am.
41. She spoke with her team after the article regarding the conference came out.
42. She also called Mr. Rodney after she saw the article; she stated that he told her that there was an investigation and assured her that he had done all that he was supposed to do and that he wanted to keep her as a sponsor.
43. She understood sponsor to be financial sponsor of the conference. She assumed all of the companies whose logos appeared on the banner were sponsors. She assumed Carib News organized the conference.
44. She was not aware of how funding for the conference was handled. She assumed the payment from IBM went to pay for her breakout session and collateral expenses for the session.

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45. Her registration fee was part of the sponsorship. She paid for her room and all travel costs.
46. There were less than 300 people at the conference.
47. When she registered for the conference, she received a badge that allowed access to buffets during the meetings.
48. The registration fee for the conference in '05 was \$750.00.
49. She was not aware of the '08 registration fee.

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

5/8/08

For Office Use: _____

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 10

Susan A. Sullivan
Verizon Foundation
Director - Strategic Planning & Partnerships



Verizon Foundation
One Verizon Way
Bldg 6, 3rd Flr South
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

November 25, 2008

Mr. Karl B. Rodney
Chairman & CEO
Carib News Charities, Inc.
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

Dear Mr. Rodney:

On behalf of the Verizon Foundation, it is a pleasure to present the enclosed check for \$35,000.00 to Carib News Charities, Inc. in support of the 13th Annual Carib News Multi-National Business Conference - November 6-9, 2008.

Under the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, Verizon Communications must receive a written receipt from all organizations to which it makes a charitable contribution. Therefore, please complete and return the enclosed form acknowledging this gift within two weeks of receipt.

Verizon Foundation is delighted to support Carib News Charities, Inc. and we wish to thank you and the organization for your dedication and contribution to our communities.

Please recognize our contribution as coming from "Verizon Communications."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Sullivan".

SS/ah

Enclosures

cc: Patrick Gaston
Albert Browne

09-3698 0127

VZ-OCE 0001

INVOICE NUMBER	INVOICE DATE	DESCRIPTION	GROSS	DISCOUNT	NET AMOUNT
00394421-00003064	11/17/2008	005-13TH ANNUAL MULTI-NATIONAL	35,000.00		35,000.00
Check No.	Check Date	Vendor No.	Handling Code	Total	
0002756	11/21/2008	0000011039	FN	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00

PAGE 1 of 1

Questions? Call 916/357-3270 BU APCRP

FOLD ALONG PERFORATED DOTTED LINE & REMOVE CHECK

verizon
 P O Box 2200
 Folsom, CA 95763-2200
 916-357-3270

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS MULTIPLE FRAUD DETERRENT SECURITY FEATURES - SEE REVERSE

Wachovia Bank, National Association
 Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Date 11/21/2008

0002756

66-156
 631

Thirty five thousand and 00/100 Dollars

PAY CARIB NEWS CHARITIES, INC.
 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLR.
 NEW YORK, New York 10018

\$ \$35,000.00

Catherine J. Webster

VOID SIX MONTHS AFTER ISSUE DATE

⑈0002756⑈ ⑆053101561⑆ 2079900572609⑈

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR OPENING INSTRUCTIONS

verizon
 P O Box 2200
 Folsom, CA 95763-2200

PRESORTED
 FIRST-CLASS MAIL
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 SACRAMENTO, CA
 PERMIT NO. 99

CARIB NEWS CHARITIES, INC.
 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLR.
 NEW YORK, New York 10018

09-3698 0128

VZ-OCE 0002

Acknowledgment of Charitable Contribution

IMPORTANT: Please acknowledge the enclosed charitable contribution by completing and returning this form. Donors cannot deduct contributions unless they are acknowledged in this manner and a failure to return this form in a timely manner may make you ineligible for future contributions by Verizon Foundation.

1. I hereby acknowledge the Verizon Foundation 2008 contribution of:
\$35,000.00

for 13th Annual Multi-National Business Conference - November 6-9, 2008.

(or describe property or services other than money received)

Received on (date):

Date of check: 11/21/08

2. Please indicate whether or not any goods or services were provided by your organization in consideration for this contribution (e.g., the value of food, beverage, ticket or entertainment at a fundraising event):
Yes _____ No _____

If YES, please describe what was provided and give a good faith estimate of the value to the goods or services, understanding that the amount of the contribution that is deductible as a charitable contribution is limited to the excess of money and the value of property contributed over the value of the goods and services provided by the charity.

Description:

Est. Value: \$

3. The information above is provided for the purpose of complying with IRS reporting requirements and is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that penalties may be imposed by the IRS on charities that fail to make the required disclosure or for making a disclosure that is inaccurate or incomplete.

Name:

Title:

Organization: Carib News Charities, Inc.

Organization Tax I.D.#: 133632050vz

Signature:

Date:

Please return to:

Anita Coleman-Hunt
Verizon Foundation One Verizon Way, VC63S427
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Telephone: 908-559-3516

Fax: 908-630-2660

09-3698 0129

VZ-OCE 0003

Acknowledgment of Charitable Contribution

IMPORTANT: Please acknowledge the enclosed charitable contribution by completing and returning this form. Donors cannot deduct contributions unless they are acknowledged in this manner and a failure to return this form in a timely manner may make you ineligible for future contributions by Verizon Foundation.

1. I hereby acknowledge the Verizon Foundation 2008 contribution of:
\$35,000.00

for 13th Annual Multi-National Business Conference - November 6-9, 2008.

(or describe property or services other than money received)

Received on (date): 11/26/08

Date of check: 11/21/08

2. Please indicate whether or not any goods or services were provided by your organization in consideration for this contribution (e.g., the value of food, beverage, ticket or entertainment at a fundraising event):
 Yes No

If YES, please describe what was provided and give a good faith estimate of the value to the goods or services, understanding that the amount of the contribution that is deductible as a charitable contribution is limited to the excess of money and the value of property contributed over the value of the goods and services provided by the charity.

Description:

Registration + Conference Meal Plan

Est. Value: \$ 1300.00

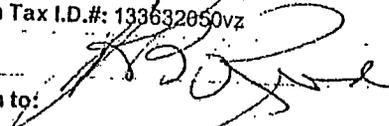
3. The information above is provided for the purpose of complying with IRS reporting requirements and is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that penalties may be imposed by the IRS on charities that fail to make the required disclosure or for making a disclosure that is inaccurate or incomplete.

Name: KARL B. RODNEY

Title: PUBLISHER / CEO

Organization: Carib News Charities, Inc.

Organization Tax I.D.#: 133632050vz

Signature: 

Date: 12/3/08

Please return to:

Anita Coleman-Hunt
Verizon Foundation One Verizon Way, VC63S427
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Telephone: 908-559-3516

Fax: 908-630-2660

09-3698 0130

VZ-OCE 0004

Exhibit 11

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: March 23, 2009
Location: Verizon Offices, Washington, DC
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy
Beth Horton
David Kass, Assistant General Counsel Compliance
James C. Wilson, Vice President and Associate General Counsel Compliance

Summary: Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation is the President and the Strategic Director for Philanthropy of the Verizon Foundation. He was interviewed pursuant to Reviews 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation participated at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008. We requested an interview with Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and he consented to an interview. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning, signed a written acknowledgement of the warning
2. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation is currently the President of the Verizon Foundation ("the Foundation") and Strategic Director for Philanthropy. His duties

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involve budget planning and implementation and governance for the foundation.

Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation has significant decision-making authority over grants issued by the foundation. He approves all grants in excess of \$25,000 and all grants funded more than two years in a row. He has been with the foundation and acting as President for the past five years.

3. The Foundation is funded through a corpus donated by Verizon and through public donations under Verizon Reads, a program that is offered as part of customer billing statements. The Foundation approves approximately 2,900 grants (totaling 67 million) through a competitive loan application process. The Foundation's online loan application process has specific approval requirements, including a quarterly "impact report."
4. The Foundation funded the Carib News Foundation for the first time in 2008, the grant was issued to provide funding for the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference ("the Conference"). Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation approved the Carib News Foundation grant. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was the Foundation's contact person for the Conference. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation did not interact with Karl Rodney or anyone at Carib News regarding the Foundation's participation at the Conference. Both Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation attended the conference. Mr. Rodney invited Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation to speak at the Conference and subsequently applied for a grant from the Foundation.
5. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and Mr. Rodney are both members of the board of the Foundation for the University of the West Indies. The two men interacted at board meetings four times per year. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he may also have spoken to Mr. Rodney 1-2 other times prior to the Conference regarding how the Foundation could showcase its Thinkfinity program. He also stated that he may have spoken to Mr. Rodney once after receiving his letter of invitation for the Conference. He does not recall Mr. Rodney "pitching" the conference to him. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation would not have participated at the Conference unless he could speak on educational issues. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation believed the Conference would be a good opportunity to showcase the Foundation's Thinkfinity program.
6. Mr. Rodney was aware of the Foundation's educational work through his interaction with Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation at board meetings for the Foundation of the University of West Indies. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that while

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he had spoken with Mr. Rodney regarding the Thinkfinity program, he did not make any type of informal commitment to fund the Conference.

7. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation believed that there were three levels of sponsorship for the Conference, the highest being \$50,000 and the lowest being \$25,000. However, he does not recall seeing any specific document(s) setting out the different levels of sponsorship. He stated that he was not interested in sponsorship at the \$50,000 level but later decided on a \$35,000 grant donation. When asked what the Foundation received at the Conference for the \$35,000, Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated signage and visibility. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation often provides such support for conferences, including the NAACP conference and National Urban League Conference.
8. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was provided 3 venues at the Conference to speak about the Thinkfinity program. The Foundation believed participation at the Conference would provide exposure to English speaking Caribbean individuals who have connections to universities in New York.
9. The Foundation is required to issue grants only to 501(c)(3) entities. The Foundation could not make a donation to a corporation. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was somewhat familiar with the Carib News paper; he has been featured in the paper and Verizon has advertised in the paper. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was not aware of Carib News Charities until the entity applied for a grant. He believed Carib News Charities was the same entity as Carib News Foundation. He is not aware of any other work the Carib News Charities/Foundation is involved in other than the conference. Mr. Rodney did not talk about the Carib News Charities/Foundation at board meetings.
10. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation arrived at the Conference on Thursday afternoon and departed on Saturday morning. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he went to make his speech and promptly left the event. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation spoke 3 times on Friday; he was acknowledge at the welcome event on Friday morning and he participated in a demonstration on Thinkfinity in the afternoon. It is not clear from Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation's remarks what other time he spoke at the Conference. He was invited to speak on Saturday but he did not feel that an extra day was necessary.
11. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation recalled seeing and speaking to Congressman Rangel. The Congressman mentioned Alltel and told him to remind his CEO to keep in mind the needs of the minority community. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation

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stated that he had no other contact with Members at the Conference. He did not know Delegate Christenson, Congressman Thompson, Congressman Payne and was not sure whether he saw Congresswoman Kilpatrick (he was not sure who she is). He does recall that one lady stated that she would love to see the Thinkfinity program in her state. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was accompanied by Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation 90% of the time he was at the Conference; he was not aware of any contact between Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and any Members:

12. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation received an advance copy of the agenda for the conference. The copy indicated that the Foundation was scheduled for two days of activities. He requested that the Saturday meetings be canceled or moved to Friday. He had not seen the agenda that Mr. Rodney submitted to the Ethics Committee for travel approval. He stated that advance copies of the agenda were common, most organizations provided the same level of detail with other conferences. He believed that he had seen more than one copy of the agenda. The agendas that were sent to him focused on the Foundation's participation and not the entire conference.
13. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was asked if it was typical to have an agenda that listed speakers without identifying their employer/affiliations. He was not sure and didn't remember if the drafts he had seen included his title; he was more concerned with having a sense of what he would be doing at the Conference.
14. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney prior to the Conference to cancel the programs he was slated to speak at on Saturday (this was his 3rd call regarding the Conference – 1st call was regarding invitation, 2nd call was to discuss his participation, 3rd was to cancel Saturday programs). Mr. Rodney was receptive to Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation's request and the Saturday program was cancelled.
15. The Foundation paid all travel expenses for Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation. He did not see the check the Foundation issued for the Conference or the confirmation letter from Mr. Rodney. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation met with Mr. Rodney following the conference at a board meeting for the Foundation for the University of West Indies. He also had breakfast with Mr. Rodney at which time they briefly discussed the Conference. According to Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation, Mr. Rodney was upset over the New York Post article regarding the Conference. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Mr. Rodney felt the article was misleading and that he had done everything that he was supposed to do

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regarding receiving approval from the Ethics Committee. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he and Mr. Rodney did not spend much time speaking about the matter. He felt that Mr. Rodney wanted him to know that he was diligent about following rules. When asked if he knew what rules Mr. Rodney was speaking about, Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he did not know which rules he was referring to.

16. Prior to his work with the Foundation, Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was with Government Affairs with Verizon, his former position did not involve lobbying. His position involved Strategic Alliance, he was responsible for working with non-profits across the country. He dealt with policy issues regarding universal service. He did not interact with regulators.
17. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation met with Eric Eve with Citi 2-3 weeks prior to our interview, they were both attending a meeting with the head of the NAACP. He did not speak to Mr. Eve about the Conference although they did speak about scrutiny on Citi related to TARP funding. He has not had any contact with the Representative of Citi from Citi.

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: 3/23/09

For Office Use: _____

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 12

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: March 23, 2009
Location: Verizon Offices, Washington, DC
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy
Beth Horton
David Kass, Assistant General Counsel Compliance
James C. Wilson, Vice President and Associate General Counsel Compliance

Summary: Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation is the National Program Director for the Verizon Foundation and Vice President for Education & Technology for Verizon. He was interviewed pursuant to Reviews 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation helped arrange the Verizon Foundation's participation at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008; he also accompanied Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation to the event. We requested an interview with Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and he consented to an interview. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning, signed a written acknowledgement of the warning

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2. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation is currently the National Program Director for the Verizon Foundation ("the Foundation") and Vice President for Education & Training for Verizon. He works on educational literacy and technology innovations for the Foundation, 80% of his time is spent on Thinkfinity. He is the only person with an operational role in the program.
3. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation helped arrange the Verizon Foundation's participation at 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference ("the Conference") in 2008; he also accompanied Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation to the event.
4. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation reviews repeat grant requests for the Foundation. When asked how the Carib News Foundation request came to his desk he stated that it was a result of conversations with Karl Rodney and Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation. He was not sure which conversation occurred first. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was invited to speak at the Conference and either simultaneously or immediately after Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation received the invitation, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney.
5. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes that he spoke with Mr. Rodney in person at a meeting for the Foundation for the University of the West Indies. Mr. Rodney inquired about the application for the grant for the Conference. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation recalled Mr. Rodney stating that he had spoke with Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and that he believed the Conference would be a good fit for the Foundation and would provide a good opportunity to communicate the Foundation's program Thinkfinity.
6. The Verizon Foundation also supports the Foundation for the University of the West Indies. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation has interacted with Mr. Rodney regarding the Foundation for the University of the West Indies.
7. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation also had previous interactions with Mr. Rodney at dinner and business meetings related the American Fund and to the publication of articles on the Foundation's Thinkfinity program.
8. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation will have been with the Foundation 3 years in October.

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9. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes he began talking with Mr. Rodney about the Conference sometime in the summer. He spoke with Mr. Rodney about the grant application. He described to Mr. Rodney the cyber grant process and explained what needed to be provided in the grant application. The system requires applicants to be 501 (c)(3) entities.
10. The head of Governance and Compliance for Verizon verifies whether applicant is a registered 501(c)(3). A grant request from a non 501 (c)(3) would be removed from the system; the request would not be forwarded to Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation. The Foundation's grant approval process is formal. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he could show a specific interest in a proposal but could not give any type of commitment to an applicant.
11. Mr. Rodney would be required to provide a deck of the '07 conference, a description of the purpose of the conference and a tentative agenda for the cyber application.
12. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney approximately 8-10 weeks prior to the conference at which time they discussed the level of sponsorship the Foundation was interested in funding.
13. Mr. Rodney described 3 levels of sponsorship to Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that this was typical of corporate sponsorships at other conferences.
14. Mr. Rodney offered the Foundation a \$50,000 sponsorship, which was the gold level. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes there was also a platinum level at \$75,000. He believes that Mr. Rodney showed him a 2007 deck with 3 levels (platinum at \$75,000, gold at \$50,000, and silver at \$25,000) prior to a scheduled interview of Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation.
15. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation explained to Mr. Rodney that the Foundation wished to negotiate a level of funding other than what was being offered. The amount of \$35,000 was decided upon by the Foundation.
16. When asked what the Foundation would receive for its funding, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that they would receive signage but that the Foundation was not specifically interested in a "quid pro quo" reciprocation, the Foundation merely wanted to disseminate information about its Thinkfinity program. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation does not do business in the Caribbean.

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17. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation made an introductory speech but that he was not sure whether the speech was included in the Foundation's sponsorship level; the speech was not pre-set in the 2007 sponsorship deck.
18. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney approximately once a week for 6-7 weeks prior to the conference to discuss Verizon's participation/logistics/capacity for web casts at the conference – contact included phone calls and emails. Contact increased as conference approached.
19. When asked how Verizon decided on \$35,000 sponsorship, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he received a call from the Carib staff regarding the conference. The Foundation was asked to sponsor at the \$50,000 level, a \$35,000 counter-offer was made to Mr. Rodney, which he accepted.
20. Conversations regarding sponsorship levels began about 8-10 weeks prior to the conference with the final dollar figure being determined approximately 2 weeks prior to the conference.
21. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Patricia with Carib regarding sponsorship, she thought the Foundation was sponsoring at the \$50,000, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation explained that the amount was \$35,000. When asked if Karl Rodney was upset with the sponsorship level, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation answered that he was not upset.
22. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation worked on the conference before Carib submitted application for funding which he stated was not unusual.
23. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he saw early drafts of the agenda prior to the conference, and then saw final draft at conference.
24. An early draft was shared with him in order for him to staff and notify Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation of his speaking times.
25. He did not recall seeing any affiliation information on the early draft, he believes affiliations might have appeared on final draft. He did ask that any information be included on final draft after reviewing the earlier version.
26. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation prepared 2 versions of the Foundation's role at the conference.

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27. The topics for the conference were decided through dialog between himself and Karl Rodney with some prior comments from Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation. Mr. Rodney was aware of the Thinkfinity program. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation suggested web casts.
28. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation thought that Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and Mr. Rodney framed the Foundation's participation at the conference.
29. Town Hall event was Mr. Rodney's idea.
30. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes that Mr. Rodney was trying to bring together various corporate interests to create a dialogue about social and economic issues that would benefit both the Caribbean and the U.S.
31. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Carib News Foundation was the only charitable entity that he was aware of, it was the listed entity in the grant application.
32. The question arose as to who sponsored conference, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he was aware that Carib News was a for-profit entity, so he asked who was the sponsor. If the sponsor was Carib News, the Foundation could not participate as a sponsor.
33. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he did not see the check that went to the Conference, it would have been generated and sent through the internal system.
34. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation did not recall seeing the name Carib News Charities Inc.
35. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation saw an early draft of the grant application but does not recall seeing the final version. He was not responsible for final approval.
36. Kathy Browne, Senior VP for Corporate Responsibility would have approved the grant.
37. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spent 2.5 days at the conference, he arrived on Thursday evening, participated at the conference on Friday and departed on Sunday.
38. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation participated in the welcome remarks on Friday morning, the plenary session, and in a roundtable meeting with educational ministers.
39. Mr. Rodney arranged these meetings, the webcast did not take place.

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40. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation did not attend the conference on Saturday or Sunday. He also left the hotel after the Foundation completed its presentations.
41. When asked about the Town Hall meeting, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Karl Rodney suggested that the Foundation speak about the Thinkfinity program, the opening remarks framework was also suggested by Mr. Rodney, Mr. Eve was to give introductory remarks and then Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was to speak.
42. There was a back and forth discussion about the plenary session between Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and Mr. Rodney to determine what role the Foundation would play in conjunction with the President of Medgar Evers College. The topic was technology supporting education.
43. There was no discussion regarding scheduling sessions to benefit US companies.
44. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he did not have any contact with Members of Congress other than a possible introductory handshake.
45. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation saw Representatives Kilpatrick, Rangel and the former head of the NAACP at the conference, along with other governmental officials from other countries. He also recalled seeing Delegate Christensen and Representative Payne. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation did not know Representative Thompson.
46. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation interacted with Mr. Rodney after the conference to discuss the American Fund and the University of the West Indies. He did not discuss the conference with Mr. Rodney.
47. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes that he may have received a thank you letter from Mr. Rodney for participating at the conference.
48. He did not see the contribution-sponsorship letter.
49. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was aware of Mr. Rodney's Foundation, and the fact that it sponsored the conference. He also believed Mr. Rodney's Foundation performed social work for boys and girls club events and that it worked with the American Fund for the University of the West Indies. He was not sure why he felt that Rodney's Foundation was involved with these other events.

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50. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation did not place any restrictions on the funding it provided to the conference through its grant, the use would have been specified in the grant application/guidelines

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

3/23/09.

For Office Use: _____

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 13



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

April 04, 2008

Ms. Marilyn Johnson
VP Marketing Development
IBM Corporation
1133 Westchester Avenue
White Plains, NY 10604

*Copy of [unclear]
- copy of [unclear]
- copy of [unclear]*

Dear Ms. Johnson:

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

Your support and that of IBM went a long way to make the conference a success. and has fostered on-going growth in business achievements and impactful policy decisions. We appreciate very much the professionalism and enthusiasm you bring to the Conference with your keen participation. The presence and demonstration of real live "IBM Partner" as a result of the conference is a powerful testimony. We do get concrete results and expressed appreciation of new opportunities.

We can assure you that all the key stakeholders, Members of Congress, Heads and Ministers of Government, Elected Officials, Community and Business Leaders are all aware and appreciative of IBM's participation in this very important mission.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. We know of your interest to deepen the IBM local, regional and global connection, and I know the Conference can achieve that. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

3

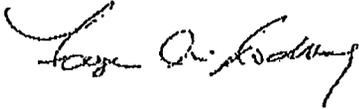
Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail. I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

4

Invoice

CARIB NEWS INC.
 7 WEST 36TH STREET
 8TH FLOOR
 NEW YORK, 10018
 212-944-1991

Date	Invoice #
7/16/2008	45122

Bill To
Wanda McKenzie IBM 2607 Jesters Court Marietta, GA 30068

Description	Amount
Sponsorship Multi-National Business Conference 2008 TAX ID 13-362060	20,000.00
Total	
	\$20,000.00

6

Description: IBM check	Weight: Letter Date: 2008-10-08	DHL standard terms and conditions apply.	EXP	Pieces: 1/1
				ORIGIN: ILE
FM: IB MCO THOU 0030 H. JOHNSON CO ARNOLD LOGISTICS 1400 BURNETT RD ALSTON, TX 78758 UNITED STATES PHONES: 512-286-2850 TO: NEW YORK CARIB NEWS, INC. FAYE RODNEY 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10018 UNITED STATES TEL: 212-944-1091			POSTCODE: 10018	
(2) JUS10018 JRAC 01 ABH		WAYBILL: 2928725550 (View-Accession)		

International Business Machines Corporation
 1970 North St., Elmhurst, New York 11700-8503

Check Number: 20-837
 129022000

Pay to the order of: NEW YORK CARIB NEWS
 7 W 36TH ST 8TH FL
 NEW YORK, NY 10018
 UNITED STATES

DATE: 2008/08/08

The sum of \$ 20,000.00**

Per: *Richard J. Carroll*
 Authorized signature

AT: Morgan Chase Bank
 Branch: NY 1106

0003777521 :021304374:601825847*

7

Exhibit 14

May 15, 2009

MEMORANDUM

VIA FAX TO: 202-226-0997

TO: Omar Ashmawy
FROM: Will Ris

RE: Materials related to Carib News Foundation Conference

At your request, I am faxing you the following documents:

1. The original letter of request for support from Carib News Foundation sent to American Airlines. I assume that they sent the identical letter to other airlines because in paragraph 3, they refer to "Continental" when it should be "American". In any case, they requested a total of 95 tickets for this event. We responded orally and told them the maximum we could provide would be 10.
2. A listing of the 10 tickets that we provided. If you need more detailed records of each individual ticket, I am happy to provide it. But this shows the names and itineraries of all 10 travelers. We provided no other support for the conference except that our group sales office authorized a standard 5 percent discount on tickets for those travelling to the conference - - this is universally available to any group of 10 or more travelling to the same location.

If there is anything else I can help you with, please let me know.



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991: Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

June 6, 2008

Mr. Will Ris
Senior Vice President
Government Affairs
American Airlines
1101 17th Street, Suite 600
Washington, DC 20036

(10 First)

Dear Mr. Ris:

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Since Air Transportation is such a vital issue for the Caribbean Region, it is going to be one of the Agenda items in the travel & Tourism sector. Continental's success is vital to the Caribbean region and the US role in world travel; we would expect significant input into any initiatives discussed.

We expect to have elected officials of the US and the Caribbean, Civic Leaders and Business- persons who can influence policies and encourage worthwhile initiatives to be at the Conference. We would welcome American Airlines' participation.

The Host Committee in the Caribbean Region and the Planning Committee in the US have all agreed to honor you with the Conference's prestigious *Marcus Garvey Bridge Builders Award*. Should you agree to accept, we would ask Congressman Charles Rangel and Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson to make the presentation to you.

We are open to our customary barter of tickets for sponsorship levels, and have enclosed a proposed arrangement guide similar to last year.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

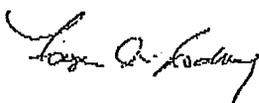
Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail. I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

We are expecting about 20 Members of Congress or more who will be attending along with other Civic Leaders and VIP's. Again, we will position American Airlines as one of the main carriers to the Caribbean transporting the elected officials and celebrities. To help us move the process along we would like to propose the following, that American Airlines participate as a Gold Sponsor of the conference in consideration for which American Airlines would receive the following:

- American Airlines will be recognized as a main sponsor.
- American Airlines name and logo will be included on all printed material.
- American Airlines will be included in all radio and television promotions.
- American Airlines will be in all Internet promotions.
- American Airlines will be a designated sponsor of a main event and/or a workshop with speaking opportunities.
- American Airlines will receive prominent space for display or exhibition.
- American Airlines banners will be displayed in the main conference area
- American Airlines can develop specific promotional materials.

In return for the above, American Airlines will provide *Carib News* with:

- Maximum of fifty (50) roundtrip coach class tickets from the 48 contiguous United States to Antigua. Reservations to be done by *Carib News* and ticketing to be by American Airlines.
- Maximum of thirty-five (35) first-class roundtrip tickets from the 48 contiguous United States to Antigua.
- Maximum of five (5) coach class tickets and five (5) first class tickets to be used for site inspection and conference planning prior to the conference.
- American Airlines will provide group fares for registered attendees. Fare and reservations & ticketing to be negotiated by American Airlines.

Site Inspection is part of the sponsorship package. We do plan to do site inspections in St. Maarten when we will officially announce the Conference and work out broad issues.

CARIBBEAN'S SUMM CONFERENCE 2008

Organization Name	Booking Code	Destination	Travel/Dele	Event Name	Authorizer STA	BR4	Letter Bltr	Expiration Date	Rdblr	Routing	FNA	Traveler Name
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PROGRAM	Caribbean Summit Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	388125	525150	JFK-SUM-JFK	LINDRQ	BODNER/YK
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PROGRAM	Caribbean Summit Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	388125	525150	JFK-SUM-JFK	LINDRQ	BODNER/YK
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PROGRAM	Caribbean Summit Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	388127	525150	JFK-SUM	LINDRQ	BODNER/YK
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PROGRAM	Caribbean Summit Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	388128	525150	JFK-SUM	LINDRQ	BODNER/YK
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PROGRAM	Caribbean Summit Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	388129	525150	JFK-SUM-SUM-HEX	DTKJCS	LAYLOR/JS
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PROGRAM	Caribbean Summit Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	388130	525150	JFK-SUM-SUM-HEX	PATWAX	BURNS/RK
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PROGRAM	Caribbean Summit Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	388131	525150	JFK-SUM-SUM-HEX	PATWAX	EVER/J
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PROGRAM	Caribbean Summit Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	388131	525150	JFK-SUM-SUM-HEX	PATWAX	EVER/J
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	T	NAM	PROGRAM	Caribbean Summit Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	412645	538511	JFK-SUM-SUM-JFK	PNM	WILLIAMS/J
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	T	NAM	PROGRAM	Caribbean Summit Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	412647	538511	JFK-SUM-SUM-JFK	LVAJTT	SHANKS/C
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	T	NAM	PROGRAM	Caribbean Summit Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	412648	538511	JFK-SUM-SUM-JFK	CHRWAZ	DODSON/J
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	T	NAM	PROGRAM	Caribbean Summit Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	412648	538511	JFK-SUM-SUM-JFK	HQDWAY	DODSON/J

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House ID	Registrant Name	Client Name	Filing Year	Filing Period	Lobbyist Full Name
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2006	Year-End	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2006	Year-End	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2006	Year-End	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2007	Mid-Year	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION	2007	Year-End	Caine, Christopher

311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2007	Mid- Year	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2007	Mid- Year	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	1st Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	2nd Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	3rd Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	4th Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2009	1st Quarter	Edington, PJ
311230000	International Business Machines Corporation (IBM)	International Business Machines Corporation (IBM)	2005	Year- End	Caine, Christopher
401290000	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	2008	1st Quarter	None
401290000	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	2008		Last Name 01, First Name 01
401290000	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	2008	3rd Quarter	None

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House ID	Registrant Name	Client Name	Filing Year	Filing Period	Lobbyist Full Name
310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2006	Year-End	Burgeson, Christine
310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2007	Mid-Year	Burgeson, Christine
310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2007	Year-End	Burgeson, Christine
310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2007	Year-End	Burgeson, Christine
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2007	Mid-Year	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2007	Year-End	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	1st Quarter	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	2nd Quarter	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	3rd Quarter	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	4th Quarter	None
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2006	Year-End	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2007	Mid-Year	Snyder, John

316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2007	Year-End	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	1st Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	2nd Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	3rd Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	4th Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2009	1st Quarter	Snyder, John
373770000	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	2007	Mid-Year	Robinson, Ken
373770000	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	2007	Year-End	Robinson, Kenneth



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House ID	Registrant Name	Client Name	Filing Year	Filing Period	Lobbyist Full Name
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2006	Year-End	Davidson, Peter B.
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Mid-Year	Davidson, Peter B.
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Year-End	Davidson, Peter
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	1st Quarter	Davidson, Peter
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	2nd Quarter	Cantrel, Frank
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	3rd Quarter	Cantrel, Frank
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	4th Quarter	Davidson, Peter
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2009	1st Quarter	Cantrel, Frank
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2006	Year-End	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Mid-Year	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Year-End	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	1st	

Contributor	Recipient	Year	Quarter	Representative
352050000 VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	2nd Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
352050000 VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	3rd Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
352050000 VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	4th Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
352050000 VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2009	1st Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
315720000 Verizon & its affiliates, except Verizon Wireless	Verizon & its affiliates, except Verizon Wireless	2005	Year-End	Davidson, Peter
315720000 Verizon & its affiliates, except Verizon Wireless	Verizon & its affiliates, except Verizon Wireless	2006	Mid-Year	Davidson, Peter
352050000 Verizon Wireless	Verizon Wireless	2005	Year-End	Azare, Monica
352050000 Verizon Wireless	Verizon Wireless	2006	Mid-Year	Azare, Monica

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Exhibit 16



BASIC REQUIREMENTS

TO HOST

CARIBBEAN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

- Invitation to host conference to be issued by Prime Minister (Head of Government). This is to facilitate the attendance of several elected officials from the United States, United Kingdom and other countries.
- Prime Minister to be keynote speaker at one of the major events of the conference and participate in the closed door session with attending elected officials.
- Local host committee to be organized with all interested ministers, agencies and associations. The chairman of this committee would be someone designated by the Prime Minister to coordinate all the activities.
- To provide the care and comfort for the VIP's attending i.e.
 - To provide 25 all-inclusive rooms for the VIP's and members of Congress attending.
 - To provide appropriate mode of transportation for VIP's and members of Congress - cars or specialized vans - not buses.
- To be a designated sponsor in one of the categories: *Title, Main or Regular Sponsor* (See Attachment)
- To organize a "Host Country Evening" - The Friday evening, the host country will host at an appropriate location an evening of food, refreshment, cultural presentation and entertainment.
- Provide for local entertainment for the various functions:
 - The Opening Ceremonies
 - The Reception
 - The Gala Dinner
- To assist in Promotion and Publicity of the conference both locally and through international offices and official publications.
- Assist in securing competitive hotel rates.
- Equip and staff conference secretariat.
- Prime Minister to issue invitations along with CARIBNEWS to members of the US Congress, other Prime Ministers and Ministers of Government.
- Participate in the Forum with Members of Congress.
- Arrange tours and activities of interest for VIP's and/or their spouse.

09-3698 0166

THE NEW YORK
CARIBNEWS
THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10018 (212) 944-1991

August 13, 2008

The Hon. Sarah A. Wescott-Williams
Leader of Government
Government Administration Building
Clem Labega Square, Philipsburg
St. Maarten, N.A.

Hon. Commissioner:

Plans are moving ahead for the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-national Business Conference, November 6-9 in your beautiful country. We have sent out invitations to several Members of Congress, Prime Ministers, Presidents and Premiers, to attend the Conference. A list of those invitees is attached. Senator Hillary Clinton has expressed an interest and her invitation will be forwarded soon. Also see Congressman Rangel's personal note of acceptance.

We wish for you now to send out your invitation to these individuals as previously discussed. A copy of past invitation letter is included. We will continue to do all the follow-up as planning and implementation as agreed to.

We are working on the draft of the program and will be sharing it with you and the Host Committee shortly. We would like to schedule our first Conference meeting by telephone with the Host Committee within the next 10 days, to start going over each area of the Basic requirements list, and to develop some time-line and contact person for each area.

We need to know immediately who on the Host Committee will be handling press and publicity, we can start sending Press Releases and Press updates.

We will be sending regular updates.

Kindest Regards



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

c.c. Commissioner Roy Marlip
Director of Tourism, Regina La Bega
Marla Chemont



Taking Our Rightful Place In The Sun

09-3698 0167

CONFIDENTIAL



Carib News Foundation

7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017

Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: (212) 944-2089

E-mail:

June 25, 2008

Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams
Leader of Government Business
Government Administration Building
Clem Labega Square,
Philipsburg, St. Maarten, NA

Dear Commissioner Wescot-Williams:

Plans are coming in place for the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-national Business Conference scheduled for November 6-9, at your invitation to the beautiful country of St. Maarten.

We were very involved with the Conference on the Caribbean held in New York last week with some fifteen Heads of CARICOM Governments, which was a success, but took a large part of our time. All attention is now set for St. Maarten.

We have signed the contract with the Maho Resort and we are in conversation with many of our sponsors. Already we have some important names agreeing to come, including Congressman Charles Rangel and Governor of New York David Paterson. We are mindful of the issues of interest to St. Maarten and so we have issued invitations to several Members of Congress, Heads of Education and Health institutions. A strong financial sector is expected; already Citibank and HSBC are on board.

There is very strong interest in the conference and all the information about the conference as St. Maarten is now on the website, in print and on radio. The promotion has begun in earnest.

We would now wish to start liaison with the local host committee to coordinate our planning with yours. Could you be kind enough to please identify the committee and the contact person and other information. We would wish that the person would report to you directly or Commissioner Marlin to expedite any matter.

Please find attached ideas for the Theme and some areas of concentration from which we can develop the program. The Host Committee should use the basic requirement as the basis for their planning. We will send a matrix of some time line and arrange for our next planning visit.

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09-3698 0168

CN 00045

2008 CARIBBEAN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

THEMES

We are suggesting as possible themes, the following:

Please feel free to change, adjust or even new approaches.

CHANGING STRATEGIES TO EMBRACE NEW POSSIBILITIES - THE GLOBAL MARKET

MOVING BEYOND BARRIERS TO A STRATEGY FOR GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

CHANGING STRATEGIES, BUILDING ALLIANCES, FACING NEW REALITIES

A REGION IN TRANSITION - STRATEGY FOR CHANGE, ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS

AREAS OF CONCENTRATION

We are also now shaping the presentations and the workshops and the areas of concentration are some of which were suggested by yourself and Commissioner Marlin:

1) **TOURISM**

- Pre clearance
- Unfunded mandate by the US
- Investment in Tourism
- Health tourism
- Regional co-operation

2) **HEALTH**

- St. Maarten, ideal location for Regional Health Center
- Delivery of health care
- Lifestyle diseases - diabetes, hypertension, obesity
- Health Investment
- Collaboration with US Institutions

3) **EDUCATION**

- Collaboration with US institutions
- Curriculum development
- Presentation of Thinkfinity - high tech tool for teaching
- Initiative between the University of the West Indies and Medgar Evers College



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

To : Host Committee:
Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference
cc. Bernard Hunt, Sonesta Maho Beach Resort

From : Karl B. Rodney
CARIB NEWS

Date : October 15, 2008

SUBJECT : Town Hall Meetings

In the interest of organizing successful Town Hall Meetings, and to make program print deadline, we suggest the use of the space available at the Sonesta Maho for those meetings.

We think the participation of the local groups and individuals in these meetings are necessary and productive because of the subject matter. We would therefore urge a strong outreach media program and direct contact to interest groups to ensure success of the Fora.

Thursday 5:00 - 6:30pm : Healthy Eating and Living

Friday 4:30 - 6:00pm : Education - Sharing Working Solutions

Saturday 4:30 - 6:00 pm : Technology

There is a great line up and we may have some additional star power. Commissioner Sarah Wescol-Williams also suggested she might have additional local speakers for these for a, and we welcome that.

Thanks for your kind cooperation.

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09-3698 0170



Carib News Foundation

7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017

Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: (212) 944-2089

E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

February 8, 2008

Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams
Leader of Government Business
Government Administration Building
Clem Labega Square
Philipsburg, St. Maarten, NA

Dear Commissioner Wescot-Williams:

It is with great pleasure that I wish to inform you that the Planning Committee has selected St. Maarten to host the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, November 6-9, 2008. There was great interest in St. Maarten because of your personal invitation issued in Antigua, and certainly all the other excellent facilities on the island.

We look forward to a great conference and with working with you and your team. We would wish that you appoint the Host Committee as soon as possible so that the real planning will start. We will be proposing some thematic approaches for your consideration, in order to get the right participants and targeted focus.

We have the proposal from the hotels and will be making that selection within the week, after which we can start the promotion. The *SAVE THE DATE* and *VENUE* will be going out to the Members of Congress shortly. We will develop a time line for the other activities.

We are proceeding with the plan and would appreciate the formal letter of invitation.

We are very excited about working with you and St. Maarten again, and we expect a great conference.

Congratulations, and thanks for your kind consideration.

Very Truly Yours,

Faye A. Rodney

President

Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

cc. Marla Chemont, Marketing Assistant

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09-3698 0171

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Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

January 23, 2008:

Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams
Leader of Government Business
Government Administration Building
Clem Labega Square
Philipsburg, St. Maarten, N.A.

Dear Commissioner Wescot-Williams:

Thanks very much for inviting us to St. Maarten to explore the possibility of St. Maarten as the Host Venue for the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, scheduled for November 6-9, 2008.

We had the pleasure of meeting with Commissioner Roy Marlin to discuss the conference, its mission and of course, St. Maarten's priorities to be addressed in the conference. Among the areas discussed were:

- ✦ The Passport issue and its impact on St. Maarten and the Caribbean
- ✦ The US Pre-clearance option and what are the possibilities
- ✦ Educational collaboration and in-state tuition consideration for students from St. Maarten
- ✦ A major women's initiative at the conference and targeting many large sororities to hold meetings and conventions in St. Maarten
- ✦ The influence on impact of the Congressional delegation on the current constitutional negotiations with the Dutch Government, particularly where the Dutch Government has lobbied these Members on their special interests.
- ✦ An appealing or special role model to address the youth of St. Maarten
- ✦ To conduct community outreach programs involving the wider population in the areas of Health, Education and possibly Technology.

These are areas that we can establish direct linkages with elected officials, professional experts, corporate perspectives and certainly business opportunities.

We were reminded by Ludwig Ouenniche the then President of the Chamber of Commerce, that it was in St. Maarten that the issue of increase of Duty Free Allowance was raised and was subsequently raised to twice the amount within six months, benefiting all the merchants not only in St. Maarten but the Caribbean.

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09-3698 0172



Carib News Foundation
 7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
 Tel: (212) 944-1991: Fax: (212) 944-2089
 E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

April 04, 2008

Ms. Marilyn Johnson
 VP Marketing Development
 IBM Corporation
 1133 Westchester Avenue
 White Plains, NY 10604

*Copy of [unclear]
 - copy of [unclear]
 - copy of [unclear]*

Dear Ms. Johnson:

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

Your support and that of *IBM* went a long way to make the conference a success. and has fostered on-going growth in business achievements and impactful policy decisions. We appreciate very much the professionalism and enthusiasm you bring to the Conference with your keen participation. The presence and demonstration of real live "*IBM Partner*" as a result of the conference is a powerful testimony. We do get concrete results and expressed appreciation of new opportunities.

We can assure you that all the key stakeholders, Members of Congress, Heads and Ministers of Government, Elected Officials, Community and Business Leaders are all aware and appreciative of *IBM's* participation in this very important mission.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. We know of your interest to deepen the *IBM* local, regional and global connection, and I know the Conference can achieve that. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

3

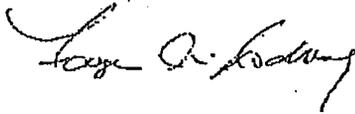
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We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail. I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

4

Exhibit 17

Registration

From: plouis [plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 11:00 AM
To: 'Kelly Mobley, Dawn'
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,
In response to your e-mail, the answer to your question is NO.

Regards and Thanks for your patience.

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 10:26 AM
To: plouis
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

FYI

From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 2:41 PM
To: plouis
Cc: Kelly Mobley, Dawn; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Louis,

Please explain in more detail your email message below relative to the "sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip." In this regard, do the following entities pay for any of the expenses of the trip for the invited House Members, including roundtrip air transportation costs, lodging costs, meal costs, cost of a particular meal or reception, etc.?

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM

10/15/2007

09-3698 0176

- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
 Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:57 AM
 To: Olson, Susan
 Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,

In response to your e-mail:

The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation.

As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program

that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Federally registered lobbyists or foreign agents will not be accompanying the Members or participating in the program.

Regards.

Patricia Louis
 Executive Assistant
 CARIB NEWS
 7 West 38th Street, 8th Floor
 New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
 Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
 To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
 Cc: Dawn.KellyMoblely@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill

10/15/2007

09-3698 0177

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject: Carib. News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib. News Foundation's (Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring" sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]" which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

10/15/2007

CONFIDENTIAL

09-3698 0179



THE NEW YORK CARIB NEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 48 FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Susan Olson	FROM: R. Louis
COMPANY: House Ctee on Standards	DATE: 10/12/07
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: Travel Certification Form	

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Ms. Olson,
In response to your e-mail - the Conference is paid for by CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION.

The companies are participants. They are not sponsors or co-sponsors for any part of the trip and play no role in the planning or content.

The program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants.

I regret the misunderstanding and thank you for your patience as I go through and grow through this process, which is new to me.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 1:55 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Confidential

The fax did not come through. I will be stepping out of the office for the remainder of the day, but will be in early Monday. Please follow up again with Susan. I have explained that the organizations you labeled as co-sponsors are not. They support your foundation annually, but have not and will not pay for the Members trip. This is simply a misunderstanding of the terms "sponsor", "contributor", and "participant" as used in the Ethics rules which is why I sent you the Rules book for preparation.

Once you are able to clarify these issues and make sure your Itinerary passes too, you should be fine. An Ethics Committee Staff Attorney must review and approve as well. Your Staff Attorney is Susan.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 11:55 AM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Confidential

Have you spoken with your Director and explained the problem so you can call Olson asap?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:59 AM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: FW: Confidential

Please read both emails below. Give Susan a call as soon as you work through the kink, let her know you are following up. Please make yourself available to work through this matter today. Thank you Patricia. (These other organizations can participate in the program but should not help pay for the trip).

From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:29 AM
To: O'Reilly, Bill; Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-Trip Approval Issues

Bill and Dawn,
 Please note the following response from Ms. Louis at Carib News: Unfortunately, it appears that if each sponsor contributes funding directly to the trip (an earmark of funds) and not simply to the general funds of Carib News, then the assumption is that all of these entities are co-sponsors of the trip for purposes of the House travel rules. If that is the case and since it is likely that at least one of these co-sponsors hires or retains a federally registered lobbyist, the trip could only be a one-day event trip. Thus the Committee can't approve the trip as it currently exists.

But, if you have a different interpretation of the below information from Ms. Louis, please do let
 10/12/2007

me know. Thanks! Susan.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:33 AM
To: Olson, Susan
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,

In response to your e-mail:

The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation.

As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program

that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants

in the

Conference.

No federally registered lobbyist or foreign agent will be accompanying the Members of participating in the program.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn.KellyMoblely@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's

10/12/2007

(Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring" sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]" which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

10/12/2007

09-3698 0183

HT-2, The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7103
Fax: 202-225-7392

10/12/2007



THE NEW YORK CARIB NEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 48 FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Dawn Kelly Mobley	FROM: P. Louis
COMPANY: Ethics Counsel for Cong. Stephanie Tubbs Jones	DATE: 10/11/97
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER
RE: Travel Form	

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Further to our conversations of this morning, following is the Travel Certification Form ..

The Conference is paid for by the Carib News Foundation. The companies are participants, are not sponsors or co-sponsors for any part of the trip and play no role in the planning or content.

The program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants.

I regret the mis-understanding and thank you for holding my hand as I go through and grow through this process which is new to me.

Kindly review and advise before I send to Ms. Olsen.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Registration

From: Thomas, Shelley [Shelley.Thomas@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 7:47 AM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

This is new territory since we never had to go through this before. I don't have an answer and I already turned in Donna's forms.

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 5:56 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn, Thomas, Shelley, Dalley, George
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Please see e-mail I received from Ms. Olson of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

A possible response could be: The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation. As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Please advise us.

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn, KellyMobley@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's (Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring"

sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(b)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]," which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 6:49 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval issues

Her question centers on whether any of these "co-sponsors" retains a lobbyist or foreign. This is the issue you and I focused on previously. It is a central problem if any do and are paying for the events. If so, you are in the same position as last year with one-day events. Call Susan back tomorrow as early as possible. Hopefully, these co-sponsors don't retain lobbyists, but you should have their representations on this matter. At a minimum, Macy's does, right? Alternatively, if they are only sponsoring event tables or the like, a lobbyist will not be problematic.

Sent using BlackBerry

-----Original Message-----

From: plouls <plouls@nycaribnews.com>
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn; Thomas, Shelley; Dalley, George
Sent: Wed Oct 10 17:56:25 2007
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval issues

Please see e-mail I received from Ms. Olson of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

A possible response could be: The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation. As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Please advise us.

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louls

Executive Assistant

CARIB-NEWS

7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor

New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM

To: plouis@mycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn Kelly Mobley@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's (Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring" sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
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- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
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Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]" which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

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10/10/2007

09-3698 0189

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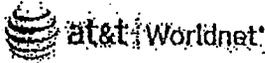
Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson
Counsel
House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
HT-2, The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7103
Fax: 202-225-7392

10/10/2007

CONFIDENTIAL

09-3698 0190



[Print] [Close]

From: "Thomas, Shelley" <Shelley.Thomas@mail.house.gov>
 "James, Corliss" <Corliss.James@mail.house.gov>, "Long, Karyn" <Karyn.Long@mail.house.gov>,
 "Bishop, Mary" <Mary.Bishop@mail.house.gov>, "Chaplin, Jennie"
 <Jennie.Chaplin@mail.house.gov>, "Pickens, Crystal" <Crystal.Pickens@mail.house.gov>, "Hamlett,
 Bjenell" <Barbara.Hamlett@mail.house.gov>, "Hendricks, Jasper"
 <Jasper.Hendricks@mail.house.gov>, "Dalley, Katie" <Katie.Dalley@mail.house.gov>,
 "GA04Scheduling" <GA04Scheduling@mail.house.gov>, "Murray, Darlene"
 <Darlene.Murray@mail.house.gov>, "Fisher, Pat" <Pat.Fisher@mail.house.gov>, "Feathersen,
 Wendy" <Wendy.Feathersen@mail.house.gov>, "Pittman, Megan" <MPittman@mail.house.gov>,
 To: "King, Lalla" <Lalla.King@mail.house.gov>, "Resendez, Marvene"
 <Marvene.Resendez@mail.house.gov>, "Kalinga, Tatyana" <Tatyana.Kalinga@mail.house.gov>,
 "Taylor, Gerri" <Gerri.Taylor@mail.house.gov>, "Anderson, Kwamime (Waters)"
 <Kwamime.Anderson@mail.house.gov>, "Howie, Elisa" <Elisa.Howie@mail.house.gov>, "Borja,
 Angie" <Angie.Borja@mail.house.gov>, "Roddey, Raven" <raven.roddey@mail.house.gov>,
 "Waskow, Jean" <Jean.Waskow@mail.house.gov>, "Holmes, Alice M."
 <Alice.M.Holmes@mail.house.gov>, "Epps, Nkeña" <Nkeña.Epps@mail.house.gov>, "Johnson, Aya"
 <Aya.Johnson@mail.house.gov>
 Cc: <carib_desk@att.net>
 Subject: Emailing 110th rule change page
 Date: Thu, 4 Oct 2007 16:36:27 +0000

To the CBC Members who indicated a "yes" or "maybe" in attending the Carib News Foundation Business Conference in Antigua, British West Indies on November 8-11 of 2007, I have attached the web site for the travel form that must be submitted by members no later than TUESDAY, October 9 to the Ethics Committee. I will be bringing copies of the agenda, as well as copies of the ethics form that Carib News had to complete and submit to Ethics, to all of the offices indicated above, today and tomorrow by noon. If anyone has any questions, please call me at 5-1790. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT MEMBERS HAVE THEIR OFFICIAL PASSPORT, AS WE ARE GOING TO A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

The message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments:

Shortcut to: http://www.house.gov/ethics/110th_rule_change_page.htm

Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled.
 <<110th_rule_change_page.url>>

Attachment 1: [110th_rule_change_page.url](#) (application/octet-stream)

New Travel Regulations, Forms, and Instructions (effective March 1, 2007):

The House Rules for the 110th Congress changed the travel rules for Members, staff, and outside sponsors. Regulations, forms, and instructions governing privately-sponsored travel taking place after March 1, 2007 are available below. An Advisory Memorandum providing additional guidance regarding travel was released on March 15, 2007. New versions of the forms relating to privately-sponsored travel were released April 6, 2007.

- Travel Guidelines and Regulations
- Instructions and Certification Form to be filled out by Private Sponsors
- Traveler Form to be filled out by Members, Officers, and Employees
- Post-Travel Disclosure Form for Members and Officers
- Post-Travel Disclosure Form for Employees

Please note: Both the Private Sponsor Certification and the Member/Officer/Employee Traveler Forms must be filed with the Committee at the same time in order to process your request.

New Gift Rule Changes:

The House Rules for the 110th Congress amended House Rule 25, clause 5 (the "gift rule") with respect to the acceptance of gifts and travel. Some of the guidance on this website regarding gifts and travel may therefore no longer apply. On February 6, 2007, the Committee issued an advisory memorandum on the changes to the gift rule. On May 24, 2007, the House amended the gift rule exception concerning the acceptance of offers of free attendance at charity events. In view of the amendment, on June 14, 2007, the Committee issued a revised memorandum that incorporates the change to the rule. Please contact Committee staff at 202-225-7103 with any questions.

Financial Interests under New Earmark Rules

The House Rules for the 110th Congress changed the Code of Official Conduct regarding earmarks. This provision requires that a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner who requests an earmark or a limited tax or tariff benefit to provide certain information regarding the request and its purpose to the committee of jurisdiction. An Advisory Memorandum providing guidance in this matter was released on March 27, 2007.

Registration

From: Smith, Hillary [Hillary.Smith@mail.house.gov]

Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2007 4:32 PM

To: plouls@nycarlbnews.com

Subject: Travel Approval Forms for Antigua Trip

Patricia,

Here is what I need fixed --

12 -- Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting this trip -- The answer should say something about how Carib News organized, planned, pulled together the invitee list and chose the destination.

13 -- Describe the organizational interest -- It is the Carib News Annual conference.

The revised forms, along with the list of invitees, should be sent to each invitee to then send to the committee so that we do not receive the wrong forms from the Congressional offices. Let me know if you have any questions.

Hillary Smith

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol

Washington, DC 20515

202-225-7103

10/4/2007

09-3698 0193

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2007 2:02 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Please read query below

Ignore the last email b/c we are working to meet the 30-day submission. Just stand by so we can get back in touch today; have it all resolved tomorrow. Monday is a holiday.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2007 12:39 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Please read query below

Thank you. We have assigned your review to Staff Attorney Susan Olson. Please reach her by phone at 202/226-8808 next week if she has not reached out to you. She will need a few days of review. Thank you very much.

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycarbnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 6:40 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Please read query below

The Conference dates are November 8-11, 2007 and opens on Thursday November 8 and ends the morning of November 11, 2007- (3 nights)

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is the Sponsor of the event.

Item No. 12: The companies like Pfizer, AT&T are donors/contributors of grants to the Foundation for educational purposes and NOT the SPONSOR, consequently I assume the information contained in that item will have to be changed.

Awaiting your advice.

Regards.

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----
From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM

10/3/2007

Registration

From: plouis [plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 6:40 PM
To: 'Kelly Mobley, Dawn'
Subject: RE: Please read query below

The Conference dates are November 8-11, 2007, and opens on Thursday November 8 and ends the morning of November 11, 2007. (3 nights)

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is the Sponsor of the event.

Item No. 12: The companies like Pfizer, AT&T are donors/contributors of grants to the Foundation for educational purposes and NOT the SPONSOR, consequently I assume the information contained in that item will have to be changed.

Awaiting your advice.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 30th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Please read query below

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:08 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Query

We are trying to work through a problem in approving the co-sponsors place. Are they each paying for a one-day, widely attended event or more days? Please read the Gift Rules I forwarded you on this matter.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2007 12:42 PM
To: plouis

Please forward the paperwork as well to the Chairwoman's personal office so her scheduler can complete the work from that office. Please get it to Lalla King today, Her fax number is 202/225-1339. She has to complete the Member's forms and meet the same deadline.

From: ploufs [mailto:ploufs@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 6:40 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Please read query below

The Conference dates are November 8-11, 2007, and opens on Thursday November 8 and ends the morning of November 11, 2007. (3 nights)

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is the Sponsor of the event.

Item No. 12: The companies like Pfizer, AT&T are donors/contributors of grants to the Foundation for educational purposes and NOT the SPONSOR, consequently I assume the information contained in that item will have to be changed.

Awaiting your advice.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----
From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM
To: ploufs
Subject: RE: Please read query below

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Please read query below

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:08 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Query

We are trying to work through a problem in approving the co-sponsors piece. Are they each paying for a one-day, widely attended event or more days? Please read the Gift Rules I forwarded you on this matter.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2007 12:42 PM
To: 'plouis'
Subject: Query

I am working through your forms before leaving them with our staff attorney and have a question. Query: Why did you not list CARIB-NEWS as the sponsor as you'd indicated instead of Macy's, etc. The official sponsor for travel, lodging, and planning is still Carib News, correct?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2007 12:57 PM
To: 'plouis'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007 Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

When you send the draft agenda, please also forward any information on your sponsor's status. If he cannot be a lobbyist. Do you need a copy of the new travel rules?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 5:53 PM
To: 'plouis'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007 Business Conference

Nothing was attached to this email. Therefore, we have not received the proposed agenda you mention below and have nothing to preview.

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 3:47 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: Draft Program - 2007 Business Conference

Ms. Mobley:
We spoke earlier re permission for Members to attend the Conference and you asked for

The program, I have not gotten back to you because we have been working on getting the program together.
Attached is the draft for your guidance.

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018.



THE NEW YORK CARIBNEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 4th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Dawn Kelly Mobley	FROM: Patricia Louis
COMPANY:	DATE: 9/21/07
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: SPONSOR FORMS	
<input type="checkbox"/> URGENT <input type="checkbox"/> FOR REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE REPLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION	

Following is a completed form for your advisement /review/comments.

Regards

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

Carib News Foundation

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): _____
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary); each representatives spouse is invited or one family member.

6. Dates of travel: November 8-11, 2007
7. Cities of departure -- destination -- return: Varies depending on member
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was de minimis under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
 - a. One night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two nights' lodging and meals are being offered:If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: Pfizer-Education/Health
AT&T and IBM - provide technology to the region. MAOY's - seeks new vendor sources, Citibank, opportunities in the region.

13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: Regular scheduled air service, economy class.

14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted.

15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):

16. I represent that either (check one of the following):

a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: or

b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation:

If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided):

17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: A Caribbean country that has not previously hosted the conference.

18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: Sandals Resort/Resort

19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$110.00

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: Has appropriate meeting rooms.

21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	320	330	195
For each accompanying family member	320	0	195

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee:		
For each accompanying family member:		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Name and title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

Fax number: _____

Email Address: _____

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
 U.S. House of Representatives
 HT-2, The Capitol
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)
 (202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT THE PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL
CERTIFICATION FORM

1. *Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip):* Fill in the names of each person, organization, or other entity contributing funds or in-kind support towards the trip.
2. *I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent:* House Members and staff may not accept travel funded by a lobbyist or registered foreign agent, even when the lobbyist or foreign agent will be reimbursed by a client or employer.
3. *I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip:* All financial contributors to the trip must qualify as sponsors and should be listed as a sponsor in response to question 1.
4. *Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?* Check yes or no. House Rules permit Members and House staff to accept travel benefits for one accompanying family member if offered by the trip sponsor.
5. *Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited:* You must list every House Member and employee who is invited on the trip, together with your reason for inviting that individual. Members and House staff may accept privately sponsored travel only when related to the individual's official duties. The explanation should demonstrate a connection between the trip and each invitee's official duties.
6. *Dates of Travel:* State the dates of departure and return.
7. *Cities of departure - destination - return:* For example, an appropriate entry might read: "DC - Detroit - DC". Include additional destinations if there will be more than one. Do not list the names of airports, times of flights, or cities where travelers will have an airport layover (this information should be included in the attached detailed agenda).
8. *Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel:* The agenda should be a detailed, hour-by-hour agenda. Include the names of speakers and the subjects of briefings. The agenda should also include information regarding the time spent on travel to and from the destination, as well as local travel. Travel will not be approved if the agenda includes an excessive amount of either unscheduled time and/or opportunities for recreational activities, even if such activities are at the personal expense of the invitees.

9. *I represent that (check one of the following):* Check only one box in response to this question. "Institutions of higher education" generally includes accredited public and private colleges or trade schools located in the U.S. and its territories; such entities should check box "a," regardless of whether they employ or retain a federal lobbyist or foreign agent. Entities other than institutions of higher education that do not employ or retain a federal lobbyist or foreign agent should check box "b." Entities other than institutions of higher education that do employ or retain a registered lobbyist or foreign agents may sponsor travel only for one-day events. For such trips, lobbyist involvement must be "de minimis" as defined by Committee regulations (see question 12).
10. *If travel is for participation in a one-day event, check one of the following:* Complete this question only if you checked box "c" in response to question 9. For travel to one-day events sponsored by an entity that retains or employs a lobbyist, lodging and meals generally may be provided only for one night. However, two nights may be authorized by the Committee in accordance with the factors set forth in Committee regulations.
11. *If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip.* House Rules prohibit Members and employees from being accompanied by registered lobbyists or foreign agents while traveling. This rule does not prohibit lobbyist or foreign agent participation in briefings or meetings that occur at the destination.
12. *Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip.* The sponsor(s) (the entity or entities paying for the trip) should be the entity primarily responsible for organizing the trip. Travel may not be accepted from an entity that merely contributes money towards the travel and is not otherwise involved in planning or conducting the trip.
13. *Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip:* Briefly describe the interest or purpose of each sponsor in the trip.
14. *Describe the type and class of transportation being provided:* See directions on form.
15. *I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s):* While Members and staff may accept local transportation necessary in facilitating their participation in officially-connected aspects of a trip, Members and staff may not accept local transportation in connection with recreation or entertainment.
16. *I represent that either:* For events that are arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation (e.g., annual meetings of business or trade associations), Members or employees may accept the meals that are provided to all other attendees as part of the event. For events put on specifically for Members or staff, meal expenses must be "reasonable" in accordance with Committee regulations.

17. *Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:* The destination of a trip must be related to its purpose. Travel to a location of an event organized without regard to congressional participation (for example, annual meetings of business or trade associations) is presumptively reasonable.
18. *Name of hotel or other lodging facility:* Include the names of all hotels and lodging facilities to be used during the trip.
19. *Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility:* Self-explanatory. Trip sponsors should not pay for a "package" that includes recreational or entertainment activities. However, Members and staff may generally use a pool or gym facilities that are offered free of charge to all hotel guests.
20. *Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:* For events held without regard to congressional participation (e.g., annual meetings of business or trade associations), an entry such as "location of annual trade association meeting" is sufficient. When the trip is held specifically for Members or staff, include rationale such as proximity to the site to be visited or to the airport.
21. *Total Expenses for Each Participant:* Indicate whether the figures provided are actual amounts or good faith estimates by checking the appropriate box. All trip expenses should be included. Expenses other than those for transportation, lodging and meals must be individually listed and specified.
22. *I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip.* Members and staff may not accept a lump sum based on an estimate of incidental expenses.
23. *Certification Information:* Self-explanatory.

THE TRIP SPONSOR SHOULD PROVIDE A COPY OF THE COMPLETED FORM, INCLUDING ALL ATTACHMENTS, TO EACH HOUSE MEMBER OR EMPLOYEE INVITED ON THE TRIP.

Version Date 4/2007 Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Washington, DC 20515

October 27, 2006

Ms. Michele Rodney
Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

Dear Ms. Rodney:

This responds to your letter requesting Committee guidance concerning the participation of House Members in the 11th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference ("Conference") sponsored by the Carib News Foundation ("Foundation"), and other organizations. The conference is scheduled to take place in Panama City, Panama from November 9 to 12, 2006. According to your submission, the Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]," which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct strongly encourages outside organizations considering whether to offer travel expenses to House Members and staff to contact our offices for information about the rules governing the acceptance of such an offer. It is important to bear in mind, however, that the Committee is authorized by the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives to render advisory opinions to Members, officers, and employees regarding the propriety of current or proposed conduct. We do not render such opinions to private organizations. Particularly in the case of travel, if it is the Member, officer, or employee who is at risk in the case of a violation of the rules. Given the different circumstances in which individual Members and employees find themselves, it would be inappropriate for an outside organization to suggest that a trip had been "pre-cleared" by the Committee. However, we are able to provide you with some general information.

¹ According to your submission, the additional trip sponsors include Macy's, J&J, OZTAC, Pfizer, AT&T, Golden Knight Franchises, American Airlines, Citibank, IBM, Panama City, and the Republic of Panama.

Ms. Michele Rodney
 October 27, 2006
 Page 2

House Rule 25, clause 5 (the gift rule) permits a Member or employee of the House to accept from a private source (other than a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal) the necessary travel expenses to attend a meeting, speaking engagement, fact-finding trip, or similar event in connection with official duties, if the private source is directly and immediately associated with the event or location being visited. "Necessary" expenses include reasonable expenses for transportation, lodging, food, and refreshments, but they do not include expenditures for entertainment or recreational activities.

Generally, any gifts that may be offered during the trip, including any gifts of entertainment or recreational activity, must be valued at a total of less than \$50 for the trip, with the annual gift limit of less than \$100 from a single source. On any trip, the aggregate value of any such gifts that may be accepted from any source is less than \$50.

In the case of international travel, necessary expenses may be accepted for not more than seven days, excluding travel. House Members may also accept expenses to enable one family member to accompany them on the trip, if offered by the trip sponsor. In addition, each Member who participates in the trip must complete a Travel Disclosure and file this form with the Clerk of the House within 30 days after their return. See House Rule 25, cl. 5(h)(1)(A)(ii), (h)(3). Members are also required to report all travel expenses totaling more than \$105 from a single source on Schedule VII of their annual Financial Disclosure Statement under the Ethics in Government Act and House Rule 26. On both forms, Members should indicate as the "trip sponsors" all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip.

Because the trip will involve meetings with foreign government representatives and the trip sponsors include the Republic of Panama and Panama City, it is important to note that government officials, including Members and employees of Congress, are prohibited by Article I, section 9, clause 8, of the United States Constitution from receiving "any present . . . of any kind whatever" from a foreign state or a representative of a foreign government without the consent of the Congress. In the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (5 U.S.C. § 7342) ("FGDA"), Congress has consented in advance to acceptance of gifts of travel or expenses for travel taking place entirely outside of the United States offered by a foreign government. Gifts of travel or expenses for travel include food, lodging, transportation, and entertainment related to the official duties of a Member, officer, or employee. Congress has also consented to the acceptance of gifts "of minimal value tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy." 5 U.S.C. § 7342(e)(1)(A). Under this provision and implementing regulations issued by this Committee, the term "minimal value" is defined as \$305. The FGDA also permits Members and staff to accept a gift worth more than minimal value when refusal would cause offense or embarrassment; such gifts are the property of the United States and must be deposited with the Clerk of the House. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value or travel expenses of any value received from a foreign government pursuant to FGDA must be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments, in addition to the

09-3698 0207

Ms. Michele Roday
October 27, 2006
Page 3.

travel disclosure form described above. Copies of both forms are available on the Committee's Web site.

Any House Members invited to travel at private expense should be encouraged to contact this Committee's Office of Advice and Education at (202) 225-7103 if they have any questions on the applicable rules. Please provide a copy of this letter to each invited Member.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,


Doc Hastings
Chairman


Howard L. Berman
Ranking Minority Member

DE/HLB:alg



Carib News Foundation
7 West 96th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

October 16, 2006

The Honorable Doc Hastings
Chair
Standards of Official Conduct
Rm. HF-2, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Via Fax 202-225-7392 & US Mail

Dear Committee Chair Hastings:

As you might be aware, The Carib News Foundation, created to provide a forum for businesses from the United States to dialogue and establish business partnerships with communities in other parts of the world, has invited Members of Congress to participate in the 11th anniversary of the Caribbean Business Conference.

This year the conference will be held in Panama City, Panama from November 9 – 12, 2006. In cooperation with the Government of Panama, our goal is to have all interested parties joining forces to foster an atmosphere of democracy, stability and opportunity for our fellow citizens of the world. It will also allow businesses in the United States to introduce their products to a new market, thus adding to the economy of both countries.

It is important for Members of Congress to attend in order to get insights into the global economy and how current law and proposed legislation can add in assisting their constituents to move towards a global exchange.

To this effort, The Carib News Foundation and its Board of Directors, respectfully request approval for the Members to attend. If there are any questions or concerns, you may contact me at 212-944-1991. I look forward to making this event as successful in its 11th year as it has been in the past 10 conferences.

Sincerely,

Michelle Rodney
President
Carib News Foundation

cc: Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs-Jones

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C-3 corporation

09-3698 0209

Registration

From: plouls [plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2007 1:56 PM
To: 'Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Re Sponsorship Information

The official sponsor of the conference is the CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION, a not-for-profit 501C3 Organization that provides educational information about the Caribbean Region and its relationship with the US in doing business and developing good neighborly ties with the United States, security, health, education etc.

The CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION does not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent.

Please use me as your contact for the purposes of this Conference.

The form will be emailed to you this afternoon.

Regards

Patricia Louis

Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 6:32 PM

To: plouis@nycaribnews.com

Subject: Re: Sponsorship Information

My condolences. No, we did not know of their loss. Is Mr. Rodney our actual contact in this matter? If so when appropriate, please impress upon him that the rules have changed dramatically and there are certain gifts and travel that can no longer be permitted so we need to clear this as early as possible. Moreover as he probably remembers, all Members have to seek approval for their individual travel...forms must be prepared, submitted, and approved for each Member's travel. Therefore, please remember to provide each of your invitees with the requisite paperwork. Hopefully by preparing early, we can circumvent the majority of problems you faced in securing their congressional travel last year. Have a good evening and please share my condolences with the Rodneys. Dawn

Sent using BlackBerry

-----Original Message-----

From: plouis <plouis@nycaribnews.com>

To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn

Sent: Wed Sep 19 18:23:58 2007

Subject: Sponsorship Information

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 3:23 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Lastly, just send the sponsor form asap for review. The new rules might prohibit some things you were able to do with so many different sponsors in the past, but until we get the form, we can't make the most informed decision. I have let the Congresswoman know we are awaiting your sponsor form. Just as you do, they would also like assurance. Thank you.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 3:09 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

I am mailing (US Postal) a copy of the official Gifts and Travel Guide. Some pages are omitted so call with any questions not addressed in the bound pages. I am using the address you provide in your emails.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 2:16 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Patricia:

I understand that several organizations will take part in sponsoring food and other parts of the Antigua travel. However, I need clarification on the official sponsor; that organization providing travel, lodging, and organizing the trip? Am I to assume it is CARIB NEWS? The official sponsoring organization must not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent (and the sponsor must have a direct and immediate relationship with the event or location being visited). To assist with this, I am scanning information/guidelines and emailing in just a moment. Please provide a fax number if that method of submittal will be more helpful. If there is someone handling this matter, please provide me their direct contact information as I must ensure adherence to these new guidelines pre-travel.

In any event, I do need to know who the official sponsor will be. I have assigned a staff attorney to review your documents and will remain in contact with you until this matter is finalized.

Please respond today or tomorrow at the latest. I will be traveling for a while thereafter and must ensure that my staff attorney has all that is necessary for a safe review.

Dawn Kelly Mobley
Ethics Counsel for Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones
Chairwoman, Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
202/225-7103

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2007 7:03 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

~~Do any of these organizations have a website?~~

Sent using BlackBerry

We had received the forms from Shelley.

The sponsors to date are : MACYS, PFIZER, AMERICAN AIRLINES, GOLDEN KRUST BAKERY, CARIBBEAN FOOD DELIGHTS, PREFERRED HEALTH PARTNERS, IBM, AT&T/INGULAR

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2007 12:57 PM

To: plouls

Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

|| When you send the draft agenda, please also forward any information on your sponsor's status. If/He cannot be a lobbyist. Do you need a copy of the new travel rules?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn

Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 5:53 PM

To: 'plouls'

Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference

Nothing was attached to this email. Therefore, we have not received the proposed agenda you mention below and have nothing to preview.

From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycarbnews.com]

Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 3:47 PM

To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn

Subject: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference

Ms. Mobley:

We spoke earlier re permission for Members to attend the Conference and you asked for the program. I have not gotten back to you because we have been working on getting the program together.

Attached is the draft for your guidance

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

Exhibit 18

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): EACH REPRESENTATIVE'S SPOUSE
6. Dates of travel: NOVEMBER 8 - 11, 2007
7. Cities of departure -- destination -- return: VARIES DEPENDING ON MEMBER
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
 - a. One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered:
 If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

- 11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

- 12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: _____
CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (SEE ATTACHED SHEET)

- 13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: _____
THE INTEREST OF CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION IS TO PROMOTE, INFORMATION, TRADE AND MEANINGFUL CONNECTION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE CARIBBEAN

- 14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted: _____
REGULAR SCHEDULED AIR SERVICE, ECONOMY CLASS

- 15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):

- 16. I represent that either (check one of the following):
 - a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: or
 - b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation:
 If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____

- 17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: A CARIBBEAN COUNTRY THAT HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY HOSTED THE CONFERENCE

- 18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: SANDALS RESORT/REX RESORT

- 19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$1,000

- 20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: HAS APPROPRIATE MEETING ROOMS

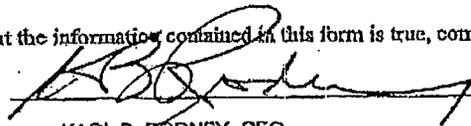
21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	320	330	115
For each accompanying family member	320	0	115

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee		
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

Address: 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10018

Telephone number: 212-944-1991

Fax number: 212-944-2089

Email Address: CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
 U.S. House of Representatives
 HT-2, The Capitol
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)
 (202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

2007 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE			
NOVEMBER 8 -11, 2007			
INVITED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS			
Sanford Bishop			
G. K. Butterfield			
Donna M. Christensen			
William Lacy Clay			
Sheila Jackson Lee			
Eddie Bernice Johnson			
Kendrick Meek			
Donald Payne			
Charles Rangel			
Bennie Thompson			
Stephanie Tubbs-Jones			
Carolyn Kilpatrick			
Barbara Lee			
Gregory Meeks			
Edolphus Towns			
Yvette Clarke			
Maxine Waters			
James Clyburn			
David Scott			
Laura Richardson			
Eleanor Holmes-Norton			
Elijah Cummings			
Diane Watson			
Keith Ellison			
Henry Johnson			
Melvin Watt			
Albert Wynn			
John Lewis			

2007 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE			
NOVEMBER 8 -11, 2007			
INVITED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS			
Sanford Bishop			
G. K. Butterfield			
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James Clyburn			
David Scott			
Laura Richardson			
Eleanor Holmes-Norton			
Elijah Cummings			
Diane Watson			
Keith Ellison			
Henry Johnson			
Malvin Watt			
Albert Wynn			
John Lewis			
Britt Weinstock			
George Dalley			



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

Exhibit 19

WORKING DRAFT

12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National

Business Conference Program

Antigua & Barbuda

Thursday November 8, 2007

12:00 noon - 6:00 pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

4:00 - 5:30 pm : COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Venue

Theme

Speakers

WTO - RULES BASED TRADE & POVERTY REDUCTION

Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Hon. Dr. Errol Cort - Minister of Finance & The Economy

Moderator

Wallace Ford

Facilitator

MEC Interns

Sponsor

ED

6:30 - 7:30 pm

OPENING RECEPTION

Venue:

Sandals Grande

Theme:

CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES

Sponsor:

Antigua Government

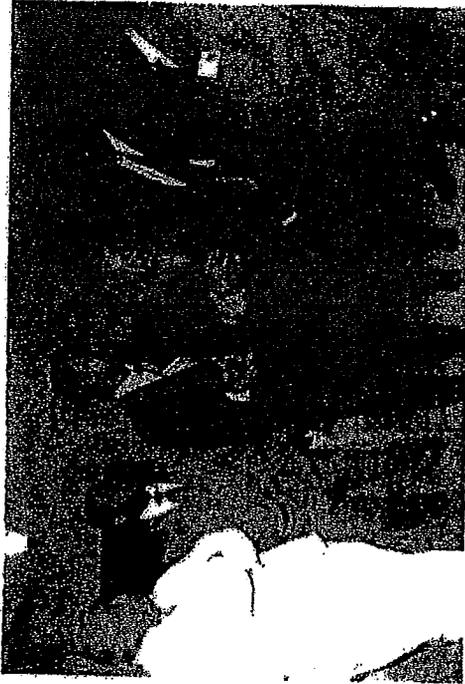
THE MISSION

- ◆ To bring together businesses, community, and government leaders interested in understanding the economic opportunities in the Caribbean marketplace locally and in the Caribbean.
- ◆ To make a global community among Diverse Business entities and The Caribbean.
- ◆ To Link the emerging markets of the U.S and the Developing Economics of the Caribbean and Latin America.



THE OPPORTUNITY

- ◆ **Marketing:** Understanding the market in the US and the Caribbean.
- ◆ **Business development:** Meeting potential customers and potential partners.
- ◆ **Strategic analysis:** Understanding the possibilities of emerging markets in the US and the Caribbean.
- ◆ **Corporate image:** Demonstrating your commitment to the Caribbean Community, and the program of diversity.
- ◆ **Community relations:** Establishing lasting relationships with key community leaders.
- ◆ **Government relations:** Meeting with and discussing topics of interest with significant elected officials from the US & the Caribbean.



MC: Sabrina Hosang

Speakers: Faye A. Rodney - President CARIB NEWS

Hon. Yvonne Clarke - Member of Congress

7:30 - 8:50 pm

Venue: Sandals Grande

Theme: COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Sponsor: SANDALS

Moderator: Hon. Nick Perry, New York State Assemblyman

Speakers: Hon. Butch Stewart, Chairman, Sandals
Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress
Hon. Harold Lowell - Minister of Tourism & Aviation

Entertainment:

10:00pm - 1:00am: Hospitality Area

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsors: Royal Caribbean Bakery

Friday, November 9, 2007

8:00am - 8:45am: BREAKFAST - Buffet Style

9:00am - 6:00pm: CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

9:00am - 10:15am: OPENING CEREMONIES

Venue: Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Theme: CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES, COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Sponsor:

GUYANA MAC SALES

MC

Invocation:

Anthems:

Speakers:

Eric Eve

Karen Boykin-Townis

Ed Goldberg

Marie Long

Hazel Dukes - NAACP

Speakers: Hon. Errol Cort - Minister of Finance & The Economy

Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress

Ambassador Andrew Young

Hon. Louise Lake Tack - Governor General of Antigua

OR

Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Ribbon Cutting

10:30am - 11:45am - PRESENTATION

Theme: - DEVELOPMENT BANKS, PRIVATE DEBT AND EQUITY

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsors: CIFI

Chair/Moderator: Jacqueline Ebanks

Speaker: Hon. Maxine Walters - Member of Congress

Hon. William Lacy Clay - Member of Congress

Hon. Compton Bourne - President, GDB

Caribbean Minister of Finance, JRD

12:00noon - 1:45pm

Theme: NATIONAL SECURITY: A PRE-CONDITION FOR SUCCESS

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsors: HSBC

Moderator: Dr. Basil Wilson

Remarks: Reginald Canal

Keynote Speaker: Hon. Bennie Thompson - Member of Congress

Paneflists: Hon. William Lacy Clay Jr. - Member of Congress

Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Hon. Colin V. A. Derrick - Minister of Justice

Attorney Sanford Rubenstein

12:00 noon - 1:30 pm

Theme

EDUCATION - US AND CARIBBEAN SYNERGISTIC

OVERCOME - CHALLENGES

Sponsors

IBM

Remarks

Marilyn Johnson

Speakers

Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President Medgar Evers College

Hon. Donald Payne - Member of Congress

Hon. Bertrand Joseph

Hon. G. K. Butterfield - Member of Congress

1:30 - 2:00 p.m. - LUNCH

Theme - CARIBBEAN TRADE COMPETITIVENESS AND POSITIONING

Venue - Sandals Grande

Sponsors - Goodworks International

Remarks - Carlton Masters

Keynote Speaker - Hon. Billie Miller - Minister of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade

Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

3:00pm - 4:00pm - ROUND TABLES

IMMIGRATION

Venue:

Moderator:

DeMarco Mason

Speakers:

Hon. Sheila Jackson Lee - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Hon. Kendall Stewart - City Council member

Sponsor:

Royal Garribbin-Bakery

DIVERSITY IN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

MACY'S - Outside Vendors

Ed Goldberg

Cheryl Monroe

State Senator Kevin Parker

City Council member Yanni

Sponsor

MACY'S

HAITI - IN TRANSFORMATION

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvonne Graham

Preferred Health Partners

PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES

Moderator :

Lance Ogiste

Hon. Bennie Thompson

Dr. Basil Wilson

Yennie

Preferred Health Partners

Sponsor

Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress

Speakers

Hon. Eliot Engel - Member of Congress

CARICOM Rep. - TBD

Venue

Goodworks International

Sponsor

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress
CARICOM REP. - TBD

Speaker

4:00pm - 5:30pm

Venue: Off Site

HEALTH - COMMON ISSUES - PROVEN SOLUTIONS

Theme

Sponsor Pfizer

Remarks Karen Boykin-Towns

Moderator Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

Keynote Speakers: Dr. Denizil Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Hon. Dr. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Hon. John Herbert Maginley - Minister of Health, Sports & Youth

Dr. Dexter McKenzie

Facilitator: MEC Intern

ED

6:30pm - 10:00pm HOST-COUNTRY EVENING

Hosted by Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer

MANDATORY FOR ALL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO ATTEND

Venue: Off Site

Sponsor: Antigua & Barbuda

10:00pm - 1:00am Hospitality Area

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsor: Golden Krust

Saturday, November 10, 2007

8:00am - 10:00am

Venue: Sandals Grande

Theme: WOMEN AND EMPOWERMENT IN THE DIASPORA

Sponsors: MACYS

Remarks - Brenda Scott - Macy's

MC - Marilyn Johnson

Speakers - Michele Obama (invited)

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Hon. Diane Abbott - Member of Parliament, UK

Baroness Patricia Scotland - Attorney General, UK (invited)

Harnett Michel - President NMSDC

Governor General - Dame Louise Lakebo

10:15am - 11:45pm - PRESENTATION

Theme - HEALTH - REAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN UPGRADING

CARE AND DELIVERY

Venue - Sandals, Grande

Sponsors - Pfizer

Greeting - Karen Boykin-Towns - Pfizer

Chair/Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham

Keynote - Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Panelists - Dr. Dexter McKenzie

Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Dr. Lesly Kernisant

Dr. Marcia Bayne-Smith

Caribbean person -TBD

10:15am-11:45am

Thème

TRAVEL & TOURISM EXPANSION: THE DIASPORA

CATALYST

Venue

Sponsors

AMERICAN AIRLINES/SANDALS

Chair/Moderator

Lloyd Williams

Speakers

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress

Hon. Keith Ellison - Member of Congress

Hon. Allan Chastanet - Minister of Tourism, St. Lucia

Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Tourism, Antigua & Barbuda

10:15am-11:45am

PRESENTATION

Theme

TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION - SHARING

Venue

Sandals Grande

Sponsors

AT&T

Remarks

Marie Long

Keynote Speakers:

Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress

Hon. Eddite Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Dr. Edmond Mansoon - Member of State

12:00noon - 1:15pm -

Theme: INTEGRATING THE DIASPORA IN BUSINESS - INVESTORS
MANAGERS, MENTORS & TRAINERS

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsor: HSBC

Remarks: Victor Evans

Speakers: Hon. Compton Jounis

Dr. Kwame Ninsin

Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress

Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress

Hon. William Lacy Clay Jr. - Member of Congress

1:30pm - 2:30pm - LUNCH

Theme: FINANCE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS VALUE

AND ROLE

Sponsors: - CITI
Remarks: - Michael Flanigan
Speakers: - Eric Eve - CITI

Hon. William Thompson, New York City Comptroller

2:30pm - 6:30pm

Optional:

3:00pm - 4:00pm - ROUND TABLE

Venue

Round Table #1

Theme

CARIBBEAN COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE DELINEATION

Venue

Sponsors

Preferred Health Partners

Remarks

Dr. Lesly Kernsani

Speakers

Dr. Dexter McKenzie

Dr. Lorna McBurnette

Round Table#2

Theme

HEMISPHERIC DISASTER FUND

Speakers

Hon. Danny Davis - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Dr. Roy Hastick

Venue

Sponsor

Round Table#3

Theme

CLOSING THE GENERATION GAP

Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress

Karlisa Rodney

Lita Baltram

Sabrina Hosang

Winthrop Wellington

Venue

Sponsor

Roundtable #4

Theme

PASSPORT - ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRAINTS ON TOURISM

Venue

Sponsor

American Airlines

Speakers

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress

Hon. Harold Lowell - Minister of Tourism

Mr. Lloyd Williams

Sponsor

CARIB NEWS

4:00pm - 5:30pm

COMMUNITY OUTREACH -

EDUCATION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION

Venue

Off Site

Sponsor

CITI

Moderator

Michael Flanigan

Speakers:

Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College

Hon. Danny Davis - Member of Congress

Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Hon. Bertrand Joseph

Facilitator: MEC intern

ED

6:30 - 7:30pm GALA RECEPTIONS

Venue:

Sponsor: AT&T-HSC

Speaker: Hon. Billie Miller, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Minister of Government - Antigua

Theme:

7:30 - 10:00 pm GALA DINNER & AWARDS

Theme:

Venue:

Sponsors

CITY/MACY'S/PFIZER

Speakers

Hon. Charles Kangel - Member of Congress

Hon. James Clyburn - Member of Congress

Keynote Speaker :

Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Presentation of the Marcus Garvey "Bridge Builder" Awards

Hospitality Area

10:30pm - 1:00am

Wentz

Sponsor:

Royal Caribbean Bakery

Sunday, November 11, 2007

8:30 am - 10:00 am

POWER BREAKFAST

Theme

UNDERSTANDING THE SPIRITUAL ROOTS AND
MAKING IT WORK

Sponsors:

Golden Krust/Macys

Celebrant

Ed Goldberg

Lowell Hawthorne

Caribbean person - TBD

Selection

Theme:

Selection:

11:00am |

Paid Trip to Montserrat - Transportation (Ferry) - Lunch and
Special Tour. Addressed by Chief Minister Lowell Lewis

|

8:00 pm |

10/3/07

OFF-PUBLIC SCHEDULE - MANDATORY FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Friday November 9, 2007

5:30 - 6:30 p.m. - Private Welcome Reception with Governor General

Saturday November 10, 2007

US-CARIBBEAN RELATIONS

11:00 a.m. - 1:00pm - Closed Door Meeting
(Mandatory for all Members)

Prime Ministers & Ministers of Government
with Members of Congress
Secretary of State - Condoleezza Rice (Invited)

5:30pm - 6:30pm - Private Meeting with Local Elected Officials and
the Business Community



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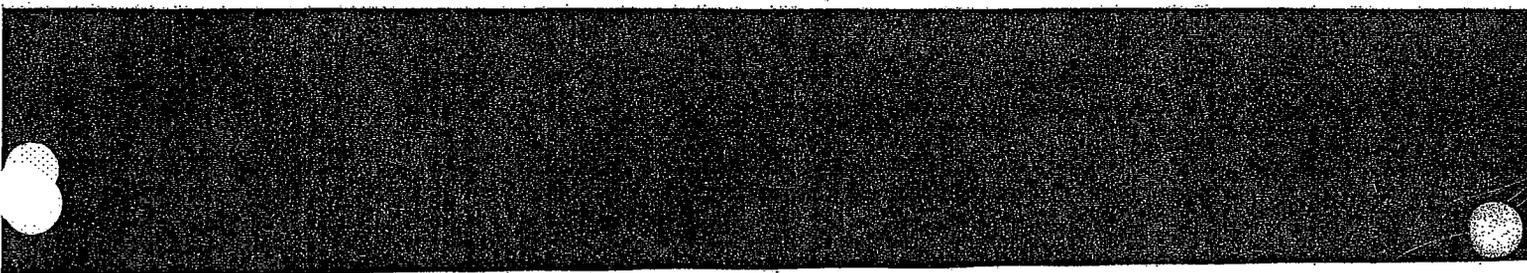


Exhibit 20

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative 1 from Macy's
Review #: 09-6333; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-2222
Date: May 27, 2009
Location: 11 Penn Plaza
New York, NY 10001
Time: 11:10pm to 12:00 p.m. (approximately)
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: Representative 1 from Macy's is the Senior Vice President of Government and Consumer Affairs and Diversity Vendor Development at Macy's, Inc. He was interviewed pursuant to Review 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. We requested an interview with Representative 1 from Macy's and he consented to an interview. Representative 1 from Macy's made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative 1 from Macy's was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. Representative 1 from Macy's signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. [attached]
2. Representative 1 from Macy's met Karl and Faye Rodney in 1996. As a result of the large Caribbean Community in New York City and Macy's commercial interests in the Caribbean region, Representative 1 from Macy's asked Macy's advertizing division to consider the CaribNews newspaper.
3. The first conference he attended was in 1998 in St. Lucia. He attended as a participant. At the time, Macy's was considering a store in Puerto Rico and so Representative 1 from Macy's was especially interested in business in the region. He was impressed by how many government officials from the Caribbean region were present at the conference and by what they had to say about developing relationships with the United States.

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

4. In the ensuing years, Macy's became a sponsor. The conference was a place where the company looked for vendors and designers. It was also a place where they could hear from U.S. legislators about their thoughts on the region. It was also a place for Representative 1 from Macy's to connect with U.S. companies who were attending.
5. Macy's first sponsored the conference in 2000. Over the years they have sponsored the event on an annual basis at varying levels, ranging from \$10,000 to \$35,000. As women's issues are particularly important to Macy's, given their clientele, their sponsorship focuses on the conference's "Women's Power Breakfast." The event was described as very lavish. All attendee of the breakfast also get a Macy's tote bag.
6. In 2008, Macy's contribution to the conference was \$35,000 is cash and an in-kind contribution of 400 tote bags. The total value of the in-kind contribution was \$4,620. The money was earmarked specifically for the conference.
7. As a sponsor, Macy's was given the opportunity to have a representative make opening remarks, to have representation at the Women's Power Breakfast, have input into who the speaker at the breakfast will be, and attend the closed door session with Members of Congress and officials from the Caribbean governments. Representative 1 from Macy's did in fact attend the closed door session in 2008. He recalled that other corporate sponsors also attended the meeting, but he could not recall which ones.
8. Representative 1 from Macy's recalled interacting with Representative Payne, Representative Kilpatrick, Representative Thompson, Representative Rangel, and Delegate Christensen. His interactions were all social in nature.
9. Representative 1 from Macy's was not aware of any other events sponsored by or planned by the CaribNews Foundation. With the exception of the conference, he was not aware of any other instances when Macy's supported a CaribNews Foundation event. Given Representative 1 from Macy's position within the company, it is very likely he would know if Macy's had done so.

I prepared this Memorandum of Interview on May 28, 2009 after interviewing Representative 1 from Macy's on May 27, 2009. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with Representative 1 from Macy's on May 27, 2009.

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

05/29/08

For Office Use: _____

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 21

Updated Schedule
for Carib News PAGE 03

WORKING DRAFT 10/22

12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
Antigua & Barbuda

Thursday, November 8, 2007

12:00noon- 6:00pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -

8:00 - 6:30am - COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Venue - Multi-Purpose Cultural Centre - Ferry Bay, St. John's

Theme - WTO-ROLES BASED TRADE & POVERTY REDUCTION

Speakers - Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress
 Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
 Hon. Dr. Errol Cort - Minister of Finance & The Economy

Moderator - Tony Best

6:30- 7:30pm - OPENING RECEPTION

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Theme: - CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES

MC: - Judge Sylvia Hinds-Radix

Speakers - Faye A. Rodney - President CARIB NEWS
 Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

7:30 - 9:30 pm -

Theme: - COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Moderator - Hon. Nick Perry, New York State Assemblyman

Speakers - Hon. 'Butch' Stewart, Chairman, Sandals
 Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress
 Hon. Harold Lovell - Minister of Tourism & Aviation

10:00pm - 1:00am: - Hospitality Area

Venue: Sandals Grande - Reflective Pool

Friday, November 9, 2007

8:00am - 8:45am BREAKFAST - Buffet Style

9:00am - 6:00pm	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
-----------------	-------------------------

9:00am - 10:15am - OPENING CEREMONIES

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Theme: - CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES, COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Remarks:

- Eric Eve
 Dr. Lowell Lewis, Chief Minister
 Montserrat
 Karen Boylchit-Towns
 Ed Goldberg
 Marie Long
 Hazel Dukes - NAACP
 William Thompson, NYC Comptroller
 Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Govt. St. Maarten

Greetings

Speakers: Hon. Errol Cort - Minister of Finance & The Economy
 Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress
 Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress

Ambassador Andrew Young
Hon. Louise Lake Tack - Governor General of Antigua
OR
Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Ribbon Cutting

10:30am -11:45am - . PRESENTATION

Theme: - DEVELOPMENT BANKS, PRIVATE DEBT AND EQUITY

Venue: - Sandals Grande

Chair/Moderator - Dr. Enrique Riggs

Speaker: Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Hon. Compton Bourne - President, CDB

Mr. Milton Lawrence, Chairman Financial Services Corporation

Mr. Rudolph Carryl

Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister/Minister of Finance, St. Kitts

10:30 - 11:45am CULTURE - PROMISE & POTENTIAL IN BUSINESS

Remarks :

Speaker: Professor Rex. Nettleford

Hon. Howard Dotson

Patrick Payne

Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Culture

12:00noon - 1:15pm

Theme: - NATIONAL SECURITY : A PRE-CONDITION FOR SUCCESS

Venue : - Sandals Grande

Moderator - Leyland Hazlewood

Remarks: - Reginald Canal

Keynote Speakers: Hon. Bennie Thompson - Member of Congress

Panelists: - Hon. Dwyer Astaphan, Minister of National Security

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Hon. Colin V. A. Derrick - Minister of Justice

Attorney Sanford Rubenstein

12:00noon -1:15pm

Theme: EDUCATION - U. S AND CARIBBEAN SYNERGIES TO
OVERCOME CHALLENGES

Remarks: - Colin Ward

Speakers: - Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President Medgar Evers College

Hon. Donald Payne - Member of Congress

Hon. Bertrand Joseph, Minister of Education

1:30pm -2:30pm - LUNCHE

Theme: - FINANCE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS - VALUE
AND ROLE

Remarks: - Michael Hartigan

Speakers: - Eric Ivo - CITI

Hon. William Thompson, New York City Comptroller

3:00pm - 4:00pm - ROUND TABLES
IMMIGRATION-

Venue: - Sandals Grande

Moderator: - Dr. Marco Mason

- Speakers - Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress
- Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
- Hon. Kendall Stewart - City Council member

DIVERSITY IN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

MACY'S - Outside Vendors

- Ed Goldberg
- Cheryl Monroe
- State Senator Kevin Parker
- City Councilmember Inez Dickens

HATTI - IN TRANSFORMATION

- Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
- Hon. Yvonne Graham
- Ambassador Andrew Young

PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES

- Moderator : Mr. Lance Ogiste
- Hon. Benjie Thompson
- Hon. Dwer Astephan
- Venue Sandals Grande

- Participant - Preferred Health Partners

- Speakers - Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress

Venue

Speaker - Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress ?
CARICOM RHE. - TBD

5:00pm - 6:30pm -

Venue: - Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Center - Ferry Bay

Theme - HEALTH - COMMON ISSUES - PROVEN SOLUTIONS - MOVE

Healthy Eating, Healthy Living

Remarks - Ms. Karen Boykin-Townes

Moderator - Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

Keynote Speakers: - Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Hon. Dr. Martin Valdes-Preferred Health Partners

Hon. Jaim Herbert Maginley - Minister of Health, Sports & Youth

Dr. John Palmer

Hon. Diane Watson, Member of Congress

6:30:00pm - 10: 00 pm - HOST COUNTRY EVENING

Hosted by Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer

Venue - Multipurpose Cultural and Exhibition Center - Ferry Bay

10:00pm - 1:00am - Hospitality Area

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Reflection Pool

Saturday, November 10, 2007

8:00am - 10:00am

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom
Theme: - WOMEN AND EMPOWERMENT IN THE DIASPORA

Remarks - Brenda Scott
MC - Marilyn Johnson
Speakers - Hon. Diane Abbott, MP UK
Commissioner Sarah Westcot-Williams,
Hon. Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick, Member of Congress
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress
Dr. Marcella Maxwell
Ms. Toni Ray
Governor General - Dame Louise Lake Tak - check
Ms. Lucille McEwen, President/CEO HCCI
Commissioner Westcot-Williams, Leader of Government

10:15am - 11:45pm - PRESENTATION

Theme - HEALTH - REAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN UPGRADING
CARE AND DELIVERY

Venue - Sandals Grande
Greeting - Karen Boykin-Towne - Pfizer
Chair/Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham
Keynote - Dr. Derril Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Panelists
 Hon. John Herbert McGinley, Minister of Health
 Dr. Marcia Rayne-Smith
 Dr. Carl Kenel Pierre, Preferred Health Partners

10:15am-11:45am

Theme - TRAVEL & TOURISM EXPANSION -THE DIASPORA AS
 CATALYST

Venue - Sandals Grande

Chair/Moderator - Mr. Lloyd Williams, GHCC

Speakers - Hon. Lucea Richardson - Member of Congress
 Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Tourism, Antigua & Barbuda
 Hon. Howard Dotson, Director Schomburg Center

12 noon- 1:15pm - PRESENTATION

Theme - TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION -
 SHARING

Venue: - Sandals Grande

Remarks - Ms. Marie Long

Keynote Speakers: - Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress
 Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress
 Dr. Edmond Mansour - Member of State
 Dr. Emmanuel Gonsalves

12:00noon - 1:15pm -

Theme - INTEGRATING THE DIASPORA IN BUSINESS - INVESTORS
 MANAGERS, MENTORS & TRAINERS

Venue: - Sandals Grande
Moderator - Roy Hastick
Participant - HSBC
Remarks - Mr. Javier Evans
Speakers - Hon. Compton Burnett
Hon. Adolfo Carrion, Bronx Borough President
Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress
Hon. Professor Rex Nettleford

1:30 - 2:00 p.m. - LUNCH

Theme - CARIBBEAN TRADE COMPETITIVENESS AND POSITIONING

Venue - Sandals Grande

Remarks - Wallace Ford - Goodworks International

Keynote Speaker - Hon. Billie Miller - Minister of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade
Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

2:30pm - 6:30pm

Optional:

3:00pm - 4:00pm - ROUND TABLE

Venue - Sandals Grande

Round Table #1

Theme : CARIBBEAN - A COMPETITIVE HEALTH CARE DESTINATION

Venue

Remarks : Dr. Lesly Kernisant

Speakers : Dr. Dexter McKenzie
Hon. Yvonne Graham

Round Table#2

Theme - HEMISPHERIC DISASTER FUND

Venue - Sandals Grande

Speakers Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
Mr. Leyland Hazlewood
Mr. Emmanuel Gonsalves

Participant -

Round Table#3

Theme - CLOSING THE GENERATION GAP

Speaker - Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
Karlisa Rodney
Lita Bahram
Sabrina Hosang
Wintropo Wellington

Venue - Sandals Grande

Participant -

Round Table #4

Theme : PASSPORT & ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRAINTS ON TOURISM

Venue : Sandals Grande

Speakers : Hon. Harold Lovell - Minister of Tourism
Mr. Lloyd Williams, GHCC
Hon. Darryl Towns, State Assemblyman

5:00pm - 6:30pm - COMMUNITY OUTREACH -

EDUCATION & YOUTH DIRECTION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION

Venue: - Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Centre

Moderator: - Michael Flanigan

Speakers: - Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College
Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress
Hon. Bertrand Joseph

6:30 - 7:30pm - GALA RECEPTION

Venue: Sandals Grande

Speaker - Hon. Stephanie Tubbs-Jones, Member of Congress
Hon. Billie Miller, Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Minister of Government ... Antigua

Theme:

7:30 - 10:00 pm : GALA DINNER & AWARDS

Theme :

Venue : Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Speakers : Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress
 Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Keynote Speaker : Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Presentation of the Marcus Garvey "Bridge Builder" Awards

Hospitality Area

10:30pm - 1:00am

Venue:

Sunday, November 11, 2007

8:30 am - 10:00am - POWER BREAKFAST

Theme - UNDERSTANDING THE SPIRITUAL ROOTS AND
 MAKING IT WORK

Celebrant - Ed Goldberg
 Lowell Hawthorne
 Caribbean person - TBD

Selection

Theme:

Selection:

10/16/07

Exhibit 22

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office
Review #: 09-6333; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-2222
Date: May 27, 2009 and May 28, 2009
Location: Washington, DC (via telephone on May 27, 2009) and at Rayburn HOB 354 (on May 28, 2009)
Time: 4:10pm to 5:30 p.m. (approximately) and 3:30pm to 4:00pm (approximately)
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office is currently the chief of staff of Representative Charles Rangel, a Member of the United States House of Representatives representing the Fifteenth District of New York. He was interviewed pursuant to Review 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. We requested an interview with Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and he consented to an interview. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office's counsel was present. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. [attached]
2. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not attend the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference although he received an invitation. In response to a Request for Information by OCE, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office looked for Representative Rangel's invitation to the conference, but could not find it. He had thought Representative Rangel had received one, but because he could not find the invitation he now thinks that Representative Rangel did not receive one.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

3. Representative Rangel could have been invited orally as he has been attending the conference for years and was seen almost as a partner. He attends the conference because he is dedicated to strengthening the relationships between the Caribbean community, the African-American community of New York City and in general, and the United States.
4. The question of whether Representative Rangel would attend the conference in 2008 was a difficult one because of the negative press he had received throughout the preceding summer. Representative Rangel was cautious about attending because he didn't want to be a target for additional negative publicity, but Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and others on the Member's staff argued that he should go to the conference. They argued that if Representative Rangel did not attend he would be rejecting the friends with whom he helped build the conference and that the Member had to stand up and do the right thing despite the possible negative publicity.
5. Ultimately, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and his staff persuaded the Member to attend. Representative Rangel decided to keep a low profile and, unlike in past years, staff would not attend the conference with the Member.
6. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that the CaribNews Foundation invited the Member. The CaribNews Foundation is the charitable arm of the newspaper. When the rules changed in 2007 and corporations could not be involved as before – i.e. direct contributions to the conference – there was “talk” about how to do the conference in light of the new rules.
7. According to Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office, there was “talk” that the Rodneys needed an entity to create a common fund so that the corporate money could be used to pay for the conference and that the CaribNews Foundation could be used for that purpose.
8. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office initially stated that he did not remember how he was aware of this “talk.” He stated that part of it was his reading of the rules and the supplemental material about how things get done. He then stated that “we” celebrated when Representative Susan Tubbs-Jones was made the chair of the Standards Committee in 2007 because she would try to create a way for Members of Congress to continue to attend the conference. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office then stated that he was made aware of the “talk” through the Rodneys and that the Rodneys told Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office that Representative Tubbs-Jones was going to have her counsel, Dawn Kelly-Mobley, find a way to make the conference work. The Members would have a few more hoops to go through but “we” would find a

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way. Representative Tubbs-Jones would let Ms. Mobley know the conference was a priority and tell her to make it possible. Representative Tubbs-Jones made Ms. Mobley the point of contact on the issue of the conference.

9. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that Representative Rangel also mentioned that Representative Tubbs-Jones told him something similar. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that there was talk about "keeping the conference going." He also stated that "They gave us the framework to keep the conference going." "They" referred to Ms. Mobley and Representative Tubbs-Jones.
10. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember any specific conversations with Ms. Mobley, but he would have had them because he would have wanted to make sure he followed her advice. He stated that the 2007 conversations about Standards Committee finding a way to keep the conference going may have also been with Patricia Louis, the Rodneys office manager.
11. Regarding the structure of the CaribNews Foundation, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office said that the role of the foundation was more formalized as a way to handle the new rules and that it would have come from the Standards Committee staff. The Rodneys were the first people to describe the new structure to Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office following their conversation with Ms. Mobley. The Rodneys told Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office that they could easily comply because they had always done the conference through the foundation. The Rodneys told him that it should have always been called the CaribNews Foundation's conference.
12. Before 2007, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office knew that the corporations had a role in the conference because the format was in part to bring businesses together. Members of Congress would talk policy, but the Members' presence was the glamour part of the conference and a way to attract more people. However, policy was not the central focus of the conference. The central focus of the conference was business and increasing investment in the region. The Members of Congress drew government officials from the various Caribbean governments and these government officials drew the businesses.
13. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was aware the involvement of other corporations like AT&T, Macy's, Citi, etc because they were pretty consistent supporters of the conference. It was clear they were supporters of the conference financially.

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14. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not talk to Representative Rangel about these matters because the Member does not require that level of detail and does not typically ask for specifics.
15. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember how he became aware of the 2007 rule changes and did not remember attending any briefings or training about the new rules. He thought he was aware of the limits on the number of days a Member could attend an event paid for by an entity that employs a lobbyist, but he was not certain. Mr. Daley did not think he was aware of rules that made an entity that earmarked money for a trip a sponsor of that trip.
16. In response to the question: At the time of the 2007/2008 conferences, how sponsor was defined? Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that the New York CaribNews Foundation was the sponsor of the conference because they were putting on the conference with money from a general fund that would pay for the conference. At that time he became conscious of a need for a 501(c)(3) to be the sponsor.
17. Over the course of several phone calls— most often with Patricia Louis and Faye Rodney, Karl Rodney's wife — Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office learned that he CaribNews Foundation was going to raise money from their traditional donors and other entities.
18. The government of St. Maarten was the lynchpin of the 2008 conference. They were the conference's host and they had specific requirements, as host, that were financial in nature. For instance, when a host government owns a conference center and/or hotel then they give the rooms and conference space for free. If they do not own space, then they have to arrange with a hotel to give rooms and space to the conference at an affordable amount. Other host government support includes police escorts, airport greeting services, and security services. They also host an opening reception and key components of the conference.
19. Although it was not typical, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office became the scheduler for Representative Rangel's travel to the conference in 2008 because he played a part in convincing him to go. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office made the reservations for the Member, but did not remember how he did it or whether the Representative had an e-ticket or a ticket in some other form. He did not remember receiving any airline itinerary documents, but it would have been common practice for him to receive one.

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20. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was shown the pre-travel clearance form submitted to the Standards Committee and stated that he filled it out and the Member signed it. He was shown the post-travel disclosure forms that were submitted to the Standards Committee and stated that he filled them out and the Representative signed them.
21. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office initially said he got the information to fill out the post-travel forms from the Rodneys and stated that he remembered getting a memo from the Rodneys with the cost of the various aspects of the trip on it and that the memo was where he got the dollar amounts for the post-travel forms. He was then asked to explain why the numbers on the post-travel form matched the pre-travel form and not the memo from the Rodneys. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office then said that he could not say for sure that he got the numbers from the memo. He did not remember if the numbers were from the memo or from the pre-travel forms. He was not sure if he checked the cost of the airfare against the airline tickets or if he got it from the pre-travel documents or from the memo.
22. Generally speaking, however, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office would not look behind the numbers given by the Rodneys. He would assume the Rodneys were accurate. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was not certain how it was done, but thought that the accounting for the conference was simple and the information for each Member would be the same. He did not ask the Rodneys for supporting documentation for the numbers on the memo.
23. After the conference, he spoke to Representative Rangel generally about the event. When the article by Susan Crabtree was published there was a lot of talk about the subject of the article with several people. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember with whom he spoke. He then said that he spoke with the Rodneys and the Member. Overall there was an opinion that there could not be anything substantive to the article because the travel was approved by the Standards Committee. It was true that the corporations were at the conference, but they did not have anything to do with their Washington, DC agenda because that's not who attended the conference. His conversations with Representative Rangel were brief and were limited to reassuring him that the office followed the rules and got approval for the travel.
24. After the OCE review was initiated Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office called other members of the Congressional Black Caucus. Representative Rangel asked him to make the calls and to tell them that he would stand by them and offered his help.

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25. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office recalled a conversation with Representative Carolyn Kilpatrick's chief of staff, Kim Rudolph. Ms. Rudolph addressed the comments that Representative Kilpatrick made in which she thanked the sponsors of the conference. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office explained Representative Kilpatrick's statements to OCE by saying that that regardless of who the real sponsor of the event was, when Members thank the corporations it helps the Rodneys put on the conference -- even if the sponsors are not sponsors under the rule. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office also remembered speaking to Shelly Thomas, Delegate Donna Christensen's scheduler, but did not recall the specifics of the conversation.
26. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was not aware of any limits on a private foundation paying for overseas travel. He did not know whether the CaribNews Foundation was a private foundation or a public charity.
27. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was shown a copy of Congressman Rangel's itinerary and a receipt for an electronic ticket. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that he did not remember seeing it before, but that the itinerary was the type of document that would typically be placed in the Congressman's briefing book so that he could provide the information at the airport in order to get his ticket. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office also pointed out that the receipt for the electronic ticket was the sort of document that would only be provided after the Congressman checked in for his flight.

I prepared this Memorandum of Interview on May 28, 2009 after interviewing Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office on May 27, 2009. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office on May 27, 2009.

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

Exhibit 23



THE NEW YORK CARIB NEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	Kelly Mobley	FROM:	Patricia Louis
COMPANY:	Committee on Standards of official conduct	DATE:	8/20/08
FAX NUMBER:	202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:	
RE: 2008 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE			

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Following is the completed form and attachments re travel for Members of Congress to attend the 2008 Multinational Business Conference scheduled for November 6-9, 2008 in St. Maatten.

Regards

09-3698 0264



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

09-3698 0265

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): BASED ON COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE WHICH IMPACTS US/CARIBBEAN RELATIONS ON WHICH THE MEMBER SERVES,
6. Dates of travel: NOVEMBER 8-9, 2008
7. Cities of departure - destination - return: VARIES - DEPENDING ON MEMBER
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
 - a. One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered:If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

09-3698 0266

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (* SEE ATTACHED)
13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: THE INTEREST OF CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION IS TO PROMOTE, INFORM, TRADE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE U.S AND THE CARIBBEAN
14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted: REGULAR SCHEDULED AIR SERVICE, ECONOMY CLASS
15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):
16. I represent that either (check one of the following):
- a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: *or*
 - b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:
- If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____
17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: SEE ATTACHED
18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: SONESTA MAHO BEACH RESORT.
19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$110.00
20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: HAS APPROPRIATE MEETING ROOMS

21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	410	260	145
For each accompanying family member	410	0	145

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$150	Conference Registration
For each accompanying family member	\$ 25	Local transportation

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Name and title: _____

KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: _____

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

Address: _____

7 WEST 36th STREET, 8th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

Telephone number: _____

(212) 944-1991

Fax number: _____

(212) 944-2089

Email Address: _____

CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
 U.S. House of Representatives
 HT-2, The Capitol
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)
 (202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INVITED TO THE
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS
CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 6-9, 2008, ST. MAARTEN, N.A.

Congresswoman Diane E. Watson
Congressman David Scott
Congressman James Clyburn
Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez
Congressman Charles Rangel
Congressman Donald Payne
Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
Congressman Edolphus Towns
Congressman G. K. Butterfield
Congressman Gregory Meeks
Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.
Congressman Keith Ellison
Congressman Kendrick Meek
Congresswoman Maxine Waters
Congressman Melvin Watt
Congressman Robert Scott
Congressman William Lacy Clay
Congresswoman Barbara Lee
Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
Congresswoman Corrine Brown
Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
Congressman Danny Davis
Congressman Bennie Thompson
Congresswoman Laura Richardson

July 2008

09-3698 0269



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1999; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Item#17

A Caribbean country whose proximity to other Caribbean Countries makes it conveniently located for delegates from the other Caribbean countries to attend.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

09-3698 0270

**MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INVITED TO THE
13th Annual Multinational Business Conference
St. Maarten, November 6-9, 2008**

**Congressman William Lacy Clay
U.S House of Representatives
131 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2406
Fax: 202-226-3717**

**Congresswoman Diane E. Watson
US House of Representatives
125 Cannon HOB
Washington , DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7084
Fax: 202-225-2422**

**Congressman Kendrick Meek
U.S House of Representatives
1039 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-4506
Fax: 202-226-0777**

**Congressman David Scott
U.S House of Representatives
417 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2929
Fax: 202-225-4268**

**Congressman James Clyburn
US House of Representatives
2135 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3315
Fax: 202-225-9253**

**Congressman Robert Scott
U.S House of Representatives
1201 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-8351
Fax: 202-225-8354**

09-3698 0271

Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez
U.S House of Representatives
2241 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2361
Fax: 202-226-0327

Congressman Charles Rangel
U.S House of Representatives
2354 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515-3215
Phone: 202-225-4365
Fax: 202-225-0186

Congressman Donald Payne
U.S House of Representatives
2209 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3436
Fax: 202-225-4160

Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
U.S House of Representatives
1510 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-1790
Fax: 202-225-5517

Congressman Edolphus Towns
U.S House of Representatives
2232 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-5936
Fax: 202-225-6018

Congressman G. K. Butterfield
U.S House of Representatives
413 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3101
Fax: 202-225-2256

Congressman Gregory Meeks
U.S House of Representatives
1710 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3461
Fax: 202-225-4169

09-3698 0272

Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.
U.S House of Representatives
2419 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-0773
Fax: 202-225-0899

Congressman Keith Ellison
U.S House of Representatives
1130 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-4755
Fax: 202-225-4886

Congressman Kendrick Meek
U.S House of Representatives
1039 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-4506
Fax: 202-225-0777

Congresswoman Maxine Waters
U.S House of Representatives
2324 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2201
Fax: 202-225-7854

Congressman Melvin Watt
U.S House of Representatives
2236 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-1510
Fax: 202-225-1512

Congresswoman Barbara Lee
U.S House of Representatives
2444 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2661
Fax: 202-225-9817

Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
U.S House of Representatives
1610 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2261
Fax: 202-225-5730

09-3698 0273

Congresswoman Corrine Brown
U.S House of Representatives
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Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-0123
Fax: 202-225-2256

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
U.S House of Representatives
1511 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-8885
Fax: 202-2256-1477

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
U.S House of Representatives
410 Canon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3816
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Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
U.S House of Representatives
1029 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
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Congressman Danny Davis
U.S House of Representatives
1222 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-5006
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Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs-Jones
U.S House of Representatives
1516 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7032
Fax: 202-2256-1539/2367

Congressman Bennie Thompson
US House of Representatives
2432 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
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Fax: 202-225-5898

09-3698 0274

Working Copy

13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
St. Maarten, N.A.

THEME: **A REGION IN TRANSITION – STRATEGY FOR**
CHANGE – BUILDING ALLIANCES

Thursday, November 6, 2008

12:00 noon – 6:00pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -

5:00 – 6:30 - **TOWN HALL FORUM - HEALTH**

Healthy Eating and Living

Innovative Solutions for Life styles

Diseases- a Collaborative Approach – Diabetes,
Hypertension, Obesity, Oral Health

Venue - **ROYAL ISLANDER**

Moderator - **Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith**

Speakers - **Mrs. Karen Boykin-Towns**

Congressmember Dr. Donna Christian Christensen

Commissioner Maria Buncamper Mplanus, Health

Commissioner, St. Maarten

Dr. Leon Merrick

Dr. Jay Cohan

Dr. John Palmer

6:30- 7:30pm - **OPENING RECEPTION**

Venue: - **UPPER POOL**

09-3698 0275

Theme: - *A REGION IN TRANSITION* -
Speakers: - Faye A. Rodney
Hon. Roy Marlin - Commissioner for Tourism & Finance - St
Maarten.

MC: - Sabrina Hosang - Royal Caribbean Bakery

7:30 - 9:30 pm - OPENING DINNER

Venue: - MAHO ROOM

Theme: - *STRATEGY FOR CHANGE*

MC - Judge Sylvia Hinds-Radix

Speakers: - Susan Taylor

Hon. Donald Payne, Member US Congress

10:00pm - 1:00am: - HOSPITALITY AREA

Friday, November 7, 2008

8:00am - 8:45am - (BREAKFAST) - OCEAN TERRACE

9:00am - 6:00pm	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OCEAN TERRACE LOBBY CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT SABA ROOM
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9:00am - 10:15am - **OPENING CEREMONIES**

Venue: - **MAHO ROOM**

Theme: - **BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR PROGRESS**

Invocation: - **Rev. Susan Johnson=Cook**

Anthems: - **St. Maarten**
Lift Every Voice

Remarks: - **Eric Eve**
Karen Boykin-Towns
Marie Long
Ed Goldberg
Patrick Gaston
Hazel Dukes

Speakers: - **Hon. Carolyn Checks Kilpatrick - Member**
US Congress
Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader
of Government, St.Maarten
Harry Belafonte

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONIES

10:15am -- 10:30am - COFFEE BREAK -

10:30am -11:45am - PRESENTATION

EDUCATION -- TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES - COLLABORATION

Moderator - Dr. Emmanuel Gonsalves

Greetings - Marie Long

Speakers - Dr. Edison Jackson
Patrick Gaston
Dr. Marcia Keizs
Congressmember Eddie Bernice Johnson
Professor Rex Nettleford

12.00 noon -- 1:15p.m. PRESENTATION

TRAVEL AND TOURISM -

A Transformative Approach

Moderator - Lloyd Williams

Greetings - Wallace Ford

Speakers - Commissioner Roy Marlin
Howard Dodson
Congressman Gregory Meeks
Professor Rex Nettleford
Dr. Martin Valdes

12:00 noon - 1:15p.m - PRESENTATION
*HEALTH - AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGY FOR THE REGION*

Greetings - Karen Boykin-Towns

Moderator - Yvonne Graham

Speakers - Dr. Denzil Douglas

Dr. Carl Kenel Pierre

Commissioner Maria Buncamper Molanus, Health
Commissioner, St. Maarten

- Dr. Dexter McKenzie

1:30pm - 2:30pm - LUNCHEON

Venue: - Main Ballroom

Theme: - *BUILDING A WINNING STRATEGY - PARTNERSHIPS
THAT WORK*

Moderator: - Hon. Nick Perry, NYS Assembly

Speakers - Eric Iye

Keynote Speaker - Hon. David Paterson, Governor New York State

3:00pm - 4:00pm

Round Table # 1 -

Theme - *EDUCATION - THINK FINITY PRESENTATION &
DEMONSTRATION*

Venue - Royal Islander A
MC - Dr. Patricia Hazlewood
Speakers - Patrick Gaston
Albert Browne

Round Table #2 -

Theme - *LOCAL BUSINESS INITIATIVES*
Opportunities with US Companies

Venue - Royal Islander B
Speakers : - Ed Goldberg
Eric Eve
Albert Browne

4:30pm -- 6:00pm

- *TOWN HALL FORUM - EDUCATION*
Venue - Royal Islander A
Theme : *EDUCATION -- SHARING WORKING SOLUTIONS*
Greetings : Michael Flanigan
Moderator : Dr. Marcella Maxwell

Speakers: - Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor, NYC
Dr. Edison O. Jackson
Dr. Marcia Keizs
Professor Rex Nettleford, UWI
William Payne, Assemblyman New Jersey .

Venue:

6.30:00pm - 7:30pm - *HOST COUNTRY EVENING*

Venue:

Theme

MC:

Speakers:

CULTURAL PRESENTATION

7:30 - 8:00 pm:

8:00pm - 10:30 pm.

Venue :

Theme

10:00pm - 1:00am - *HOSPITALITY AREA*

Venue:

Saturday, November 8, 2008

7:45 am - 8:15 am = BREAKFAST

Venue - OCEAN TERRACE

8:30am - 10:00am - PRESENTATION

Theme WOMEN OF INFLUENCE AND POWER

Venue: - MAHO BEACH

Greetings & Opening Remarks - - Brenda Scott

Moderator - Marilyn Johnson

Speakers: - Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Government Business

Dame Billie Miller, former Deputy Prime Minister, of Barbados

Dr. Marcia Keizs, President York College

Michelle Paterson, First Lady New York State

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson

Rev. Dr. Susan Johnson-Cook

10:15am - 11:45am - **PRESENTATION**

Theme - **THE CARIBBEAN, IT'S VALUE & POTENTIAL**

Venue - Royal Islander A

Greetings - Wallace Ford

Moderator - Dame Billie Miller

Speakers - Hon. P. J. Patterson, former Prime Minister, Jamaica

Hon. Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister St. Vincent and the Grenadines

- Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister, St. Kitts-Nevis

Congressman Charles Rangel

12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m. - **PRIVATE MEETING - CLOSED DOOR SESSION**

with Members of Congress and Ministers of Government

12:00 noon - 1:15p.m.

PRESENTATION

Theme

- *TRADE & INVESTMENT - CREATIVE SOLUTIONS*
- *RETOOLING FOR GROWTH - PARTNERSHIP AT WORK*

Venue

- Royal Islander A

Greetings

- Michael Flanigan

Moderator

- Ivanhoe Ffriend

Speakers

- Adolfo Carrion, Borough President, Bronx, New York
- Compton Bourne, President Caribbean Development Bank
- Congressman Edolphus Towns
- Eric Eve

12:00 noon - 1:15pm

PRESENTATION

Theme

- *Hemispheric Security - Ports/Airports - Crime - Drugs - Disaster*

Venue

- Royal Islander B

Greetings

- Earl Brown, Deputy Borough President, Bronx
- Judge Sylvia Ash

Moderator

- Tony Best

Speakers

- Congressman Bennie Thompson
- Commissioner Theo Heyliger, St. Maarten
- Professor Ivelaw Griffith
- Hon. Lance Ogiste, Brooklyn District Attorney

1:30pm - 2:30 pm

LUNCHEON

Venue

- MAHO ROOM

Theme: **CARIBBEAN -- A SOLID INVESTMENT**

Greetings - **Hon. Darryl Towns**

Speakers - **Hon. William Thompson, NYC Comptroller**
Dr. Compton Bourne, President CDB

Round Table #1 - **IMMIGRATION/DEPORTEES**

Venue - **Royal Islander A**

Moderator - **Dr. Marco Mason**

Speakers **Congressman Bennie Thompson**
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson, Member US Congress
Attorney Stanford Rubenstein
NYC Councilmember Dr. Kendall Stewart

Round Table#2: - **HAITI -- BOLD INITIATIVES -- THE DIASPORA-**
CBC AND CARICOM

Venue - **Royal Islander B**

Moderator - **Hon. Yvonne Graham**

Speakers - **Hon. Charles Rangel**
Hon. Gregory Meeks
Hon. Ralph Gonsalves
Dr. Lesly Kernisant

4:30 pm -- 6:00pm - **TOWN HALL FORUM - TECHNOLOGY**

Venue: **Royal Islander A**

Greetings & Opening - Marie Long

Moderator - Colin Ward

Speakers - Congressman Edolphus Towns
Albert Brown
Commissioner of Technology

6:30 -- 7:30pm - GALA RECEPTION

Speakers - Susan Taylor

7:30pm -- 10:00pm - GALA DINNER & AWARDS PRESENTATION

Speaker - Dr. Harry Belafonte

Hon. Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Government
Business

AWARDS PRESENTATION

ENTERTAINMENT

10:30pm -- 1:00am - HOSPITALITY AREA

Venue: HOTEL CONFERENCE ROOM

Sunday, November 9, 2008

8:30 am -- 10:00am - POWER BREAKFAST

Theme: - *SPIRITUALITY - THE BASICS IN BUSINESS*

Greetings - *Lowell Hawthorne*

Speakers - *Ed Goldberg*

Selection: - *Local Choir*

October 13, 2008

Exhibit 24

7 west 36th street
 new york, 10018

Confirmation Number: TC2TDF
 Booking Date: 27Oct08

Agent Number: 6535
 Booked By: Afeesha

ITINERARY: MRS. D CHRISTENSEN

Date	Flt	Depart	Arrive	Stops
Sat 08Nov08	550	SXM - ST.MAARTEN 12:10pm	SXM - ST.THOMAS 12:55PM	0

Fare and Charges Detail:		Total For 01 guest(s)	Fare:	112.00
			Passenger Facility Charge:	7.00
			Airport Development Tax:	5.00
			Airport Authority Taxes:	9.35
			Airport Passenger Taxes:	30.00
			Fuel & Insurance Surcharge:	34.50
			Total:	\$197.85
Payment(s):			Master Card:	\$197.85-
			Balance Due:	\$0.00

NOTE - Terms & Conditions

All Fares and Charges listed on the Itinerary are in United States Dollars (USD) and are subject to daily going currency exchange rates.

Promotion Terms & Conditions for special discounts and/or offers supersede applicable items in the General Terms & Policies.

All Fares are non-refundable, but may be retained in a Credit Facility, to expire one year from the cancellation date. The credit can only be applied to bookings for the passenger(s) it was created for. Most Fares are subject to Change/Cancellation Fees plus any difference in fare of the new itinerary. This may be done up to three(3) hours prior to departure time. Passengers who fail to change/Cancel flights will forfeit the fare paid.

[n.b. Some Fares DO NOT Permit any Changes/Cancellations or Credit whatsoever]. For detailed fare rules associated with your specific booking please contact our reservations center (<http://www.liatairline.com/contact.html>). You may also review the fare rules by accessing your booking information via our website (www.liatairline.com) and clicking on the "my bookings" button on the navigation menu.

LIAT is now a low cost carrier and as a consequence does not provide flight connections or baggage transfer to other carriers. It is the passenger's responsibility when making bookings to allow adequate time for baggage collection and rechecking if connecting to another carrier. We recommend at least 150 minutes between international connecting flights.

<http://webmail.att.net/wmc/en-US/n/wm/12757655501592702?cmd=Print&sid=c0&folde...> 10/28/2008

Exhibit 25



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the
General Counsel

Office of the
Secretary
Washington, D.C.
20201

June 2, 2000

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Ethics Counselors
National Institutes of Health

FROM: Karen Santoro
Ethics Counsel

SUBJECT: Outside Activities of NIH Employees with Foundations

Recently, a provision of the Internal Revenue Code has been brought to my attention that has serious ramifications for NIH employees who have previously received approval to engage in outside employment activities with private foundations. The statute imposes a tax on "each act of self-dealing between a disqualified person and a private foundation." 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(1). This statute, which was enacted in 1969, was intended to curb private foundations' attempts to influence Government officials. The Internal Revenue Service has issued a number of revenue rulings with respect to Government employees and prospective activities with private foundations.

Issue: The Internal Revenue Service imposes an individual penalty tax of up to 200% of the amount of compensation from a private foundation to certain Government officials conducting outside activities with these foundations.

Conclusion: Certain Government officials should refrain from accepting compensation (other than travel expenses within the United States) for outside activities with private foundations.

Discussion: Specifically, the statute imposes a tax on each act of self-dealing by a disqualified individual equal to five percent of the amount involved for each year in the taxable period. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(1) [1]. In any case in which an initial tax is imposed on an act of self-dealing which is not corrected within the taxable period, a tax equal to 200 percent of the amount involved will be imposed on the disqualified person. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(b)(1)[2].

The Code defines "self-dealing" as any direct or indirect agreement by a private foundation to make any payment to certain enumerated government officials. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(1)(F)[3]. Government officials who are "disqualified persons" within the scope of this restriction are elective officials, Presidential appointees, Schedule C employees, and individuals compensated at or above GS-15-7 levels, irrespective of their appointment mechanism (Title 42, SBRS, Commissioned Corps), and personal or executive assistants or secretaries to any of the foregoing. 26 U.S.C. § 4946(c). Excluded from the definition of government employees is a "special governmental employee" as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 202 (a)[4]; Treas. Reg. 53.4946 §1(g)(1).

Also excluded from the definition of self-dealing are agreements to employ an individual for any period after the termination of his government service if that individual is terminating his government service within a 90 day period. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (d)(1)(F). For purposes of the statute, a "private foundation" has the same meaning as in 26 U.S.C. § 509. A website for obtaining the status of a foundation can be found at http://www.irs.ustreas.gov/bus_info/eo/eosearch.html.

09-3698 0291

Government officials who are within the scope of this statute will be required to pay the tax only if the individual participates in the act of self-dealing knowing that it is an act of self-dealing. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (a)(1). The regulations define "knowing" to include those situations when: the individual has actual knowledge of the facts that such a transaction would be self-dealing; he is aware that the act violates Federal tax law governing self-dealing; and he negligently fails to make reasonable attempts to ascertain whether the act is an act of self-dealing or he is in fact aware that it is in an act of self-dealing. Treas. Reg. § 53.4941 (a)(1)-(b)(3). The burden is thus on the individual to determine whether he or she is liable under the statute.

An individual's participation in an act of self-dealing will not be considered "knowing" if the individual, after full disclosure of the factual situation to legal counsel, relies on the advice of counsel expressed in a "reasoned written legal opinion" that an act is not an act of self-dealing within the meaning of the statute, even if the act is subsequently determined to be self-dealing. Treas. Reg. § 53.4941(a)(1)-(b)(6).

Finally, a tax for self-dealing will not be imposed under the following circumstances: certain nontaxable prizes and awards if the recipients are selected from the general public; nontaxable scholarships and fellowship grants; qualifying annuity plans; contributions or gifts not exceeding an aggregate of \$25; payments made under the government employee training program in 5 U.S.C. Ch. 41; and payment of travel expenses within the United States. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (d)(2)(B); Rev. Rul. 131, 1974-2 C.B. 385.

As a result of this statute, NIH employees paid at or above the GS 15-7 level are effectively prohibited from receiving compensation from a private foundation for activities such as teaching, writing, advising, or consulting. The Internal Revenue Service may serve a deficiency notice upon an employee, who would then be forced to pay the tax or contest the assessment.

Effective immediately, all requests for approval of outside activities must be reviewed in accordance with the statutory provision at 26 U.S.C. § 4941. The compensation level of the individual requesting approval must be considered in conjunction with an analysis of the nature of the private entity offering the opportunity for compensation. Previously approved outside activities with foundations for NIH employees who are paid at or above the GS 15-7 level should be reviewed to determine the status of the foundation. Should the status of the foundation be private, any affected employee must be advised to either accept only travel expenses within the United States for his/her service or resign from such service. Employees who have questions whether payment to them by a private foundation constitutes acts of self-dealing should consult private counsel.

For your information, the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) and the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) are For your information, the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) and the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) are not considered private foundations for purposes of this prohibition.

The NIH Office of the Legal Advisor has reviewed and concurs in this opinion.

cc: Robert Lanman, Stephen Benowitz

[1] When a tax is imposed on a self-dealer, a corresponding tax of 2.5 percent is imposed on any foundation manager unless the participation by the foundation manager is not willful and is due to reasonable care. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(2). A maximum tax of \$10,000 may be imposed. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (c) (2).

[2] The "taxable period" is defined as the period beginning with the date on which the act of self-dealing occurs, and ending on the earliest of: the date that a deficiency notice is mailed by the I.R.S.; the date on which the tax is assessed; or the date on which the correction of the act of self-dealing is completed. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (e), Treas. Reg. § 53.4941 (e) -1 (a) (1). As with the initial tax, a corresponding additional tax of 50 percent will be imposed on any foundation manager who refuses to agree to the correction. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (b) (2). As with the initial tax, the penalty on a foundation manager is limited to \$10,000. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (c) (2)

[3] The statute also defines "self-dealing" to include: the sale or exchange, or leasing, of property; the lending of money or other extension of credit; the furnishing of goods, services, or facilities; payments to a disqualified person as defined in 26 U.S.C. § 4946 (a) (such as substantial contributors, foundation managers, holders of 20 percent of the voting power or beneficial interests; family members of disqualified individuals, or a corporation, partnership, or trust holding a 35 percent interest); and transfer to or use by a disqualified person of the foundation's income or assets. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (d).

[4] 18 U.S.C. § 202 (a) defines "special Government employee" as temporary employee appointed for a term not to exceed 130 days, a part-time U.S. commissioner or magistrate, a part-time member of Congress, or a Reserve or National Guard officer.

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BY HAND DELIVERY

October 23, 2009

Clifford Stoddard, Committee Counsel
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
Washington, DC 20513-0328

Re: Review No. 09-3698
Rep. Donna M. Christian Christensen

Dear Mr. Stoddard:

The following is Representative Donna M. Christian Christensen's response to the Report and Findings and Citations to Law (Report) the Office of Congressional Ethics (OCE).

The Report asserts that there is a substantial reason to believe that her participation in the 13th Annual Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten, N.A., from November 6-9, 2008, her acceptance of payment or reimbursement of expenses to attend the conference, and her post travel disclosure form filed with the Office of the Clerk violated various provisions of House Rule XXV, Section 5(b).

The allegations are:

1. That Rep. Christian Christensen failed to identify the "true, correct, and accurate" sponsor of her travel "to the best of her knowledge" on her Member Post Travel Disclosure Form;
2. That she violated House Rule XXV, Section (5)(b)(1)(C) by accepting trip related reimbursements from entities that employ or retain lobbyists for participating in a event for more than one day;
3. That she violated House Rule XXV, Section 5(h)(1)(1)(B) by underreporting the value of the travel reimbursement she received to attend the 13th Annual Multi-National Business Conference; and

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COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS

4. That Carib News Foundation's payment of travel expenses for the conference and Representative Christian Christensen's acceptance of such payments violated the Internal Revenue Code.

Procedural Issues

At the outset, it appears that there may be procedural flaws in this matter which would have resulted in the proceedings being terminated on March 25, 2009. As is stated in the procedural history at p. 6 of the Report, a preliminary review commenced on March 6, 2009 following a written request for review by two OCE Board members. The Board Members' request was made on February 23, 2009. Procedurally a second phase review of the matter must be initiated within thirty days from the request for a preliminary review, or March 25, 2009. The vote to initiate a second-phase review in the matter did not occur until March 27, 2009.

Assuming that the second-phase review was properly initiated and the proceedings did not terminate on March 25, 2009, the second-phase review was to be concluded by May 25, 2009. Interviews were conducted as part of the second-phase review through May 27, 2009.

Assuming that this matter is not procedurally defective, Representative Christian Christensen denies each of the allegations posed against her in this referral to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct for further review.

Sponsorship of the Conference

With regard to the first allegation, Representative Christian Christensen asserts that the information on her Post Travel Disclosure form was true, correct and accurate to the best of her information and belief. Before, during and after the 13th Annual Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten (2008 Conference), she had a bona fide and reasonable belief that the Carib News Foundation (CNF) was the sponsor of the conference and the source of payment of the trip, i.e., her travel expenses. When she completed the Member Post Travel Disclosure Form she did not know or have reason to know that an entity other than CNF "paid for her trip."

If CNF was the only sponsor, there was no misstatement on the Post Travel Disclosure Form. If CNF misled the Committee and there were in fact other sponsors but Representative Christian Christensen had no reason to know this, there was no knowing misstatement and the information she submitted was true, correct, and accurate **to the best of her knowledge.**

The Report sets out extensive information and allegations that CNF and others provided misleading information to the Standards Committee in 2007 and 2008 concerning sponsorship of the conference and the earmarking of funds for Members travel. Although the Board of the OCE does not have jurisdiction over conduct occurring prior to March 11, 2008, it states that these 2007 events are relevant to the Standards Committee's

review of CNF's Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form for the 2008 conference and its approval of Representative Christian Christensen's proposed trip.

The Report devotes significant discussion to the efforts of CNF and others to present CNF as the sole sponsor of the conference in order to comply with changed travel regulations becoming effective in 2007. See pages 24 through 44. These efforts influenced the Standards Committee's review process in both 2007, a time frame over which this body does not have jurisdiction, and 2008 and effected its approval of Representative Christian Christensen's privately funded travel to both conferences. It is of note that the Board itself acknowledges that Representative Christian Christensen was not involved in the review process. Neither she nor members of her staff had any communication with the Standards Committee, its former Chair or the former Chair's counsel in connection with the 2007 or 2008 review process and had no knowledge or reason to know about the process. This topic does not involve Representative Christian Christensen to **any** degree.

Representative Christian Christensen complied with the regulations and requested authorization by the Standards Committee prior to traveling to St. Maarten. She relied on the approval communicated by the letter of 10/16/2008 stating:

Pursuant to House Rule 15, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct hereby approves your proposed trip for you and your spouse to St. Maarten, N.A. scheduled for November 6 and 8, 2008 sponsored by the Carib News Foundation.

The Board admits that her reliance was reasonable "to a point." However, it alleges that she should have known that CNF was not the only sponsor of her trip through subsequent events that she was able to observe personally at the conference. This allegation is based on the fact that: representatives of corporations were present at the conference; that signs at the conference displayed corporate logos; and that speakers at the conference thanked sponsors, using the plural form of the word sponsor.

CNF specifically informed Representative Christian Christensen that it was the sponsor of her trip and the Standards Committee's approval letter confirmed that CNF was the sponsor who paid for her trip. She did observe the presence representatives of corporations at the conference and banners containing their logos and believed that this indicated the corporations were supporters of the Foundation and were conference participants. In light of the approval letter from the Standards Committee she had no reason to believe that these corporations or any entity other than CNF provided funds "earmarked" to pay her travel or trip expenses. She had no knowledge of or reason to know about fund raising efforts by Carib News and CNF vis a vis the conference. She had no knowledge, nor should she reasonably be expected to have knowledge, of the financial situation including net assets of the CNF or the movement of funds for the conference or other purposes between CN and CNF. Having other corporations thanked for their support of CNF and/or the conference did not give rise to a "should have known" standard that these entities provided funds "earmarked" for her travel/trip.

Question #5 on the Post-Travel Disclosure Forms asks “Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip)” Representative Christian Christensen answered “Carib News Foundation.” This information was “true, correct and complete” to the “best of [her] knowledge at the time she signed it.

Representative Christian Christensen reasonably understood the inquiry “who paid for your trip” to refer to who paid her travel expenses. Her understanding that trip expenses referred to the general out of pocket costs related to attendance at a conference was bona fide and reasonable. In footnote 3, on page 8, the Board states that “travel expenses” and “trip expenses” are used interchangeable and then provides a construction, not consistent with common usage of “trip” and “travel” expenses, that these terms refer to the conference as a whole. According to this construction any corporate funds used to support the conference, especially those donated to support the conference, are “earmarked” for Members’ travel.

The fact that the letter from the Standards Committee informed Representative Christian Christensen the “proposed trip” to St. Maarten “sponsored by the Carib News Foundation” was approved did not put her on notice, as the Board argues, that any funds from donors supporting the conference would be considered “earmarked” for her **travel or trip expenses** and subject to disclosure requirements. Since the definition of “trip” within the context of the inquiry “who paid for your trip,” was not before the Committee and, in fact, had not been raised in any context, this letter cannot be used to support the position articulated in Footnote 3. If this is the interpretation of disclosure rules going forward, Representative Christian Christensen will comply. However, it was not her reasonable understanding at the time she completed the Post Travel Disclosure Form.

Her understanding is consistent with the House Ethics Manual wherein it is stated:

The rule and implementing regulations are concerned with the organizations(s) or individual(s) that actually pay for travel. Thus, for example, when a non profit organization pays for travel with donations that were earmarked, either formally or informally, for the trip, each such donor is deemed a – private source for the trip and (1) must be publically disclosed as a trip sponsor on the applicable travel forms and (2) must itself be required to satisfy the above standards on proper sources of travel expenses.

To the extent that the term “travel expenses” has been previously defined it is in House Rule 25, Section 4 (c):

In this rule the term “travel expenses” means with respect to a Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee of the House, or a relative of such Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee, the cost of transportation, and the cost of lodging and meals while away from the residence or principal place of employment of such individual.

Representative Christian Christensen had no knowledge that any funds donated to CNF were “earmarked” either formally or informally, **for the trip** and thus deemed a private source for the trip and subject to disclosure. She was not privy to CN’s or CNF’s fundraising efforts set out in pages 15 through 21 of the report. Observing the presence of corporate participants and representatives of the government of St. Maarten at the conference and hearing them thanked for their participation and support did not give rise to a rational inference that any of these entities had provided funds “earmarked” for Members’ travel and she did not draw any such inference.

Her understanding before, during and after the conference was that her travel (trip) expenses had been paid by CNF, a 501(c)(3) organization. To the best of her knowledge neither Carib News, nor its foundation, hired lobbyists and were not foreign agents. She was aware that corporations gave money to the CNF and had representatives attending the conference in 2008, as they had for the past thirteen years. She observed nothing to indicate that any entity other than CNF, including these corporations and the government of St. Maarten, specifically provided funds for her travel (trip) expenses or for the travel (trip) expenses of other Members. To the best of her knowledge, none of the corporations participated in planning of the conference and its agenda and none of them have requested the presence of Members of congress, arranged for, or reimbursed their trips. To the best of her knowledge, the only role of the government of St. Maarten was to host a reception/dinner that was part of the conference and was open to all attendees and invited local guests.

Acceptance of Trip-Related Reimbursements from Entities that Employ Lobbyists

The second allegation is that Representative Christian Christensen accepted trip-related reimbursements from entities that employ or retain lobbyists for participating in an event for more than one day. As stated above, she reasonably believed that the only sponsor “who paid for her trip” was Carib News Foundation. She reasonably relied on the CNF’s statements and the approval of her trip by the Standard’s Committee from November 6 through November 8, 2008.

She did not know of Carib News Foundation’s fund raising efforts in support of the conference. If, in fact, other entities were paying for her trip, she had no knowledge of that matter. Further, she is not responsible for and cannot be held accountable for any misrepresentations that may have been made to the Standards Committee by CNF or counsel to the former chair of the Committee regarding sponsorship of the conference or funds earmarked to pay for Members’ travel.

The Carib News Foundation does not employ lobbyists. Representative Christian Christensen reasonably believed that CNF was the sponsor paying for her trip based on the letter from the Committee approving the trip and the information provided to her after her trip by CNF detailing the travel/trip expenses that it had paid on her behalf during her two day stay at the conference. These expenses included transportation, lodging, and food. She therefore had no reason to believe that House Rule XXV(b)(1)(C) applied to

this travel. If it is true that organization employing lobbyists earmarked donations for her travel/trip expenses, she like the Standards Committee was misled and cannot be held responsible for an inadvertent violation of the rule.

Accuracy of the Information Provided as to the Value of Reimbursed Expenses.

Representative Christian Christensen did not pay any of the “reimbursed” expenses directly. She received correspondence from the CNF addressed directly to her on 11/18, 2008 stating that the “breakdown of value” for her travel was airfare - \$410, hotel - \$270, and registration/transportation - \$175. She reasonably relied on this and entered this information on her Post-Travel Disclosure Form. She assumed that this information was an accurate reflection of her airfare and two nights stay in the hotel. She had advised CNF that she would be staying two nights and the Foundation made her travel arrangements as they had every year. She did not have contact with the airlines or hotel regarding charges or fees and had no reason to doubt the accuracy of CNF’s representations. She had no way of knowing what CNF represented to Reps. Rangel, Thompson, Payne and Kilpatrick regarding the “breakdown of value” of their trips.

CNF apparently provided the Board with copies of Representative Christian Christensen’s tickets from St. Croix to St. Maarten and from St. Maarten to St. Thomas totaling \$578 rather than the \$410 the Foundation reported to her. She acknowledges this discrepancy. However, she does not recall seeing a ticket that contained fare information prior to reviewing the Board’s exhibits to the Report and Findings. She does not recall having seen a hotel bill. She did not have a copy of the ticket or receipt when preparing the Post Travel Disclosure Form. The only documentation of expenses in her possession was the communication from CNF.

The rules require that members give a “good faith” estimate of travel and lodging expenses. That is what she did, based on the material provided to her by CNF.

CNF’s Status a Private Foundation

It is alleged that CNF’s status as a private foundation precludes its ability to pay for Members’ overseas travel. Prior to receiving the Report and Finding and consulting with counsel, Representative Christian Christensen knew only that CNF was a 501(c)(3) organization and was not aware of the difference between a private foundation and a public charity. It is the Standards Committee that approved its payment of travel/trip expenses for Members to the 2008 conference. Neither Representative Christian Christensen nor other Members had a role in this determination, which may have been erroneous. The Report notes on p. 5 that a limitation on CFN’s ability to pay for overseas travel of government officials does not implicate her.

Conclusion

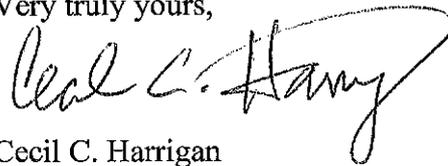
In the penultimate paragraph of the report it is states:

... these facts show failures at multiple points by multiple parties in complying with and enforcing the travel rules. Inaccurate information was provided by CNF to Members and the Standards Committee. Delegate Christensen certified inaccurate information to the Standards Committee and failed to disclose the number of family members accompanying her. The counsel to the former Chair of the Standards Committee intervened in the review process in a way that both frustrated the process in 2007 and set a pattern of obfuscation that continued in 2008. Finally, the Standards Committee appears unaware of the limitations on the ability of private foundations to pay for overseas travel by Members.

As discussed above, Representative Christian Christensen has no responsibility for these "failures at multiple points." She is not responsible for inaccurate information provided by CNF on which both the Standards Committee and Members relied. She had nothing to do with and no knowledge of improper intervention and obfuscation in the process by which the Standards Committee reviewed the issue of sponsorship of the conference and the reimbursement of Members' travel/trip expenses. She cannot be faulted because the Standards Committee appears unaware of the limitations on the ability of private foundations to pay for overseas travel and thus approved such payments. To the extent that she certified inaccurate material she, like the Standards Committee, relied on inaccurate material provided to her by CNF. At no time did she fail to disclose the number of family members accompanying her. The record shows that she initially anticipated that her spouse would accompany her and this was approved by the Standards Committee. He did not attend. No expenses were paid on his behalf and the Post-Travel Disclosure Form certified no family member accompanied her.

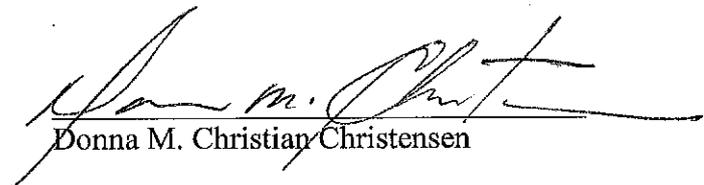
Thank you for your opportunity to respond to the Report and Findings of Fact and Citations to Law.

Very truly yours,



Cecil C. Harrigan

I have reviewed the above response prepared by my counsel, Cecil C. Harrigan, and I affirm under penalty of perjury that the information contained therein is true and correct to the best of my information and belief, this 26 day of October, 2009.



Donna M. Christian Christensen

111th CONGRESS, 1st SESSION
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

**Investigation into Officially Connected Travel of House Members to Attend the Carib
News Foundation Multinational Business Conferences in 2007 and 2008.**

Appendix B

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT

Review No. 09-2567

The Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics, by a vote of no less than four members, on May 29, 2009 adopted the following report and ordered it to be transmitted to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct of the U.S. House of Representatives.

SUBJECT: Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick

NATURE OF THE ALLEGED VIOLATION: There is substantial reason to believe that Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick's participation in the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten, N.A. from November 6-9, 2008, her acceptance of reimbursement of expenses to attend that conference and the Member Post Travel Disclosure Form she filed violated various provisions of House Rule XXV Section 5(b).

RECOMMENDATION: The Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics recommends that the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct further review the above described allegations concerning Congresswoman Kilpatrick.

VOTES IN THE AFFIRMATIVE: 6

VOTES IN THE NEGATIVE: 0

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OR STAFF DESIGNATED TO PRESENT THIS REPORT TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE: Leo Wise, Staff Director & Chief Counsel.

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FINDINGS OF FACT AND CITATIONS TO LAW

Review No. 09-2567

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OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CITATIONS TO LAW

Review No. 09-2567

On May 29, 2009 the Board adopted the following findings of fact and accompanying citations to law, regulations, rules and standards of conduct (*in italics*). The Board notes that these findings do not constitute a determination that a violation actually occurred.

I. INTRODUCTON

1. Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten, N.A., from November 6-9, 2008. Congresswoman Kilpatrick received funds from a private source to participate in the conference.

A. Summary of Allegations

2. There is substantial reason to believe that Congresswoman Kilpatrick violated the requirement that she identify the “true, correct and accurate” sponsor of her travel “to the best of her knowledge” on her Member Post Travel Disclosure Form. While forms submitted to her office and the Standards Committee before the conference identified one entity as the sponsor—the Carib News Foundation—once at the conference, Congresswoman Kilpatrick was presented with indications that other corporations—including Citigroup, IBM, AT&T, Pfizer, Macy’s and Verizon Foundation—were also sponsors. In fact, Representative Kilpatrick, in remarks at one of the conference sessions, personally thanked “the sponsors” after the corporations were identified as such. Those indications proved to be true—the corporations were in fact sponsors of Congresswoman Kilpatrick’s travel according to House travel rules because the corporations had donated funds specifically for the conference (i.e. earmarked funds). Further, events that occurred in 2007 affected the Standards Committee’s ability to determine whether the corporations were sponsors in 2008:
 - a. In 2007, the House of Representatives changed the rules governing travel. Those changes placed limitations on the number of days Members of Congress could participate in events (such as conferences) when their travel was sponsored by an

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entity that employs or retains a lobbyist. These changes affected the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference. In 2007, the Carib News Foundation continued to identify the corporations as sponsors on the conference agenda and on a draft version of the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form prepared for submission to the Standards Committee for approval. However, after interacting with the counsel to the then-Chair of the Standards Committee, and apparently without the knowledge of the staff attorney reviewing the trip, the documents identifying the corporations as "sponsors" were changed and their sponsorship was not disclosed.

- b. The 2007 conduct and attendant misrepresentations appear to have directly influenced what occurred in 2008. When the Carib News Foundation submitted materials to the Standards Committee for their approval of the 2008 conference, the Carib News Foundation took the same approach and did not disclose the role of the corporate sponsors on the forms they submitted to the Standards Committee.
3. There is substantial reason to believe that Congresswoman Kilpatrick violated House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C) by accepting trip-related reimbursements from entities that employ or retain lobbyists for participating in an event for more than one day.
4. There is substantial reason to believe that Congresswoman Kilpatrick violated House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B) by underreporting the value of the travel reimbursements she received to attend the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference.
5. There is substantial reason to believe that Congresswoman Kilpatrick violated the limitation that a Member may only bring one family member with them on privately sponsored travel, described in the House Ethics Manual at page 101, by bringing both her daughter and granddaughter to the conference. The Board further notes that Congresswoman Kilpatrick failed to disclose that her daughter and granddaughter were accompanying her on the trip.
6. There is substantial reason to believe that the Carib News Foundation's payment of travel expenses for Representative Kilpatrick and her acceptance of payment violated the Internal Revenue Code. As stated above, Carib News Charities, the name previously held by the 501(c) organization now known as the Carib News Foundation, is listed as a private foundation in the Internal Revenue's cumulative list of charitable organizations, Publication 78. Therefore, the Standards Committee should not have approved the trip because the funds came from a prohibited source.

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B. A Note on Culpability

7. These findings fall into four categories: (1) the sponsor or sponsors, as the case appears to be, of the conference; (2) the intervention of the counsel to the former Chair of the Standards Committee in the Standards Committee's review process of the conference in 2007 and how it affected the information before the Standards Committee in 2008; (3) the accuracy of the value of the reimbursement submitted by Congresswoman Kilpatrick and (4) whether, because of its tax status, the Carib News Foundation could lawfully pay for Congresswoman Kilpatrick's conference-related expenses.
8. While all these topics are relevant, the Board notes that they do not all involve conduct by Congresswoman Kilpatrick to the same degree.
 - a. As to topic 1, determining the identity of the true sponsor or sponsors implicates the conduct of both Congresswoman Kilpatrick and the Standards Committee. Congresswoman Kilpatrick told the OCE she relied on the Standards Committee to make that determination. It is the Board's view that the Member's approach is reasonable to a point. Once Congresswoman Kilpatrick arrived at the conference, however, she was confronted with information that other corporations were co-sponsors. That information, at least in 2008, does not appear to have been before the Standards Committee when they initially approved the 2008 travel.
 - b. As to topic 2, the intervention of the counsel to the former Chair of the Standards Committee in the Standards Committee's review of the 2007 conference did not involve Congresswoman Kilpatrick. Nonetheless, it directly bears on whether and to what extent the Standards Committee could determine the true sponsor of the conference in 2008.
 - c. As to topic 3, the accuracy of the information Congresswoman Kilpatrick provided as to the value of the reimbursement of her conference-related expenses most directly implicates her conduct. The post-travel disclosure form that all Members must file when they accept privately sponsored travel is signed and certified by Members. The form puts the obligation on Members, not staff, not the Standards Committee and not sponsors, to certify that the information on the form is "true, accurate and complete" to the "best of the Member's knowledge." Congresswoman Kilpatrick saw the value of her travel and retained copies of documents that showed its true value in her office files. Nonetheless, she certified inaccurate information on the post-travel disclosure form.
 - d. As to topic 4, limitations on Carib News Foundation's ability to pay for overseas travel of government officials, Congresswoman Kilpatrick told the OCE she was

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unaware of any such limitations. The Board finds this statement to be credible. Nonetheless, the law prohibits such payments. Therefore, the Board feels compelled to include a discussion of this issue in this referral:

C. Jurisdictional Statement

9. The allegations that are the subject of this review concern Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, a Member of the United States House of Representatives from the 13th District of Michigan. The Resolution the United States House of Representatives adopted creating the Office of Congressional Ethics directs that, “[n]o review shall be undertaken...by the board of any alleged violation that occurred before the date of adoption of this resolution.”¹ The House adopted this Resolution on March 11, 2008. Because the conduct under review occurred or relates to actions taken after March 11, 2008, review by the Office of Congressional Ethics is in accordance with the Resolution.

D. Procedural History

10. A preliminary review in this matter commenced on March 6, 2009 following a written request by at least two members of the OCE Board which was made on February 23, 2009.
11. At least three members of the Board voted to initiate a second-phase review in this matter on March 27, 2009. The Board voted to extend the second-phase review by 14 days, as provided for under the Resolution, on April 24, 2009.
12. The second-phase review ended on May 26, 2009.
13. The Board voted to refer the matter to the Standards Committee for further review on May 29, 2009.
14. The OCE requested documents from and interviews with representatives of:
- (1) Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee’s Congressional office;
 - (2) the Verizon Foundation;
 - (3) Citibank;
 - (4) American Airlines;

¹ House Resolution 895 of the 110th Congress, Section 1(e).

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- (5) IBM;
- (6) Macy's, Inc;
- (7) Pfizer;
- (8) AT&T;
- (9) Representative Kilpatrick's Congressional office;
- (10) Representative Payne's Congressional office;
- (11) Representative Rangel's Congressional office;
- (12) Representative Thompson's Congressional office;
- (13) Delegate Christensen's Congressional office;
- (14) The Carib News; and
- (15) The Carib News Foundation

II. Multiple Entities, Including CARIB NEWS (the Newspaper), the Government of St. Maarten and Several Corporations, Sponsored Representative Kilpatrick's Trip

15. *Under House Rule 25 clause 5(d), Members are required to obtain prior approval of the Standards Committee for trips where the Member's travel expenses will be reimbursed by a private source. The Standards Committee has adopted regulations, pursuant to House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B)² that requires Members to identify the "sponsor(s)," i.e. the party reimbursing travel expenses, for any trip where the payor is a private entity.*
16. There is substantial reason to believe that Congresswoman Kilpatrick violated the requirement that she identify the "true, correct and accurate" sponsor of her travel "to the best of her knowledge" on her Member Post Travel Disclosure Form. While forms submitted to her and the Standards Committee before the conference identified one sponsor—the Carib News Foundation—once at the conference, Congresswoman Kilpatrick was presented with evidence that other corporations were sponsors. As will be discussed below, those indications proved to be true—the corporations were in fact

² House Rule 25(5)(h)(i)(1)(B) directs the Standards Committee to establish, "regulations describing the information it will require individuals subject to this clause to submit to the committee in order to obtain the prior approval of the committee for any travel covered by this clause . . ." On February 20, 2007, the Committee issued guidelines and regulations concerning the travel restrictions and requirements.

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sponsors of Congresswoman Kilpatrick's travel according to House travel rules because the corporations had donated funds specifically for the conference (i.e. earmarked funds).

A. Representative Kilpatrick's Knowledge of The Involvement of These Corporations in the Conference

17. On her Member Post-Travel Disclosure Form, Congresswoman Kilpatrick listed Carib News Foundation as the only sponsor of her travel to and participation in the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten, N.A. (hereafter "the trip" or "conference"³) in November 2008.⁴

HAND DELIVERED	
U.S. House of Representatives 110 th Congress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment LEGISLATIVE RESOURCE CENTER 2009 NOV 20 PM 1:56 LEGISLATIVE CLERK U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
MEMBER / OFFICER POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM	
<small>This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties. You need not disclose government-funded or political travel on this form, or travel that is unrelated to official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report all privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual Financial Disclosure Statement. In accordance with clause 5 of House Rule 25, complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, B-106 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed. The Clerk is to make these forms available to the public as soon as possible after they are received.</small>	
1. Name of Traveler:	<u>Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick</u>
2. a. Name of Accompanying Family Member (if any):	<u>Marsha Cheeks</u>
b. Relationship to Member/Officer: <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Child <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):	<u>Sister</u>
3. a. Date of Departure and Date of Return:	<u>Depart - Nov 6, 2008, Return - Nov 9, 2008</u>
b. Dates at personal expense (if any):	<u>NONE</u>
4. Itinerary (cities of departure -- destination -- return):	<u>- Attached -</u>
5. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip):	<u>Carib News Foundation</u>

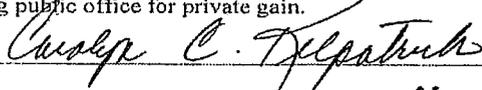
³ The "Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form" asks the filer at question 5, "Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip)." This in turn raises the question, is a conference a "trip" or is a trip limited to the travel expenses associated with attending the trip, e.g., transportation, lodging and meal expenses? The House Ethics manual and the relevant forms use the terms "travel" and "trip" interchangeably. For example, the relevant form is called a Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form" (emphasis added). The introductory paragraph on the form provides, "[t]his form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties" (emphasis added). However, question 9 on the form asks the filer to detail, "TRIP EXPENSES" and uses as an example, "registration fees." Registration fees are not "travel" expenses unless one defines travel (or a trip) to include participating in a conference. The Board uses the term "trip" to include the conference. The Board also notes that the Standards Committee treated the conference as the "trip" in its letter of October 21, 2008 pre-approving Congresswoman Kilpatrick's trip.

⁴ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (Nov. 20, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2567 0002).

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18. Congresswoman Kilpatrick certified that this information was "true, correct and complete" to the "best of [her] knowledge."⁵

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.	
SIGNATURE OF MEMBER:	
	DATE: <u>Nov. 19, 2008</u>

19. In an interview with the OCE, Representative Kilpatrick confirmed it was her signature on this document.⁶
20. Prior to the conference, Karl Rodney, the CEO of the Carib News Foundation, submitted a Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form to Congresswoman Kilpatrick, which she in turn submitted to the Standards Committee, which identified the Carib News Foundation as the sponsor of the trip.⁷

<p align="center">U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Standards of Official Conduct</p> <p align="center">PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM (provide directly to each House invitee)</p> <p>This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.</p> <p><i>Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.</i></p> <p>1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): <u>CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION</u></p>
--

⁵ Id. at 09-2567 0003.

⁶ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Carolyn Kilpatrick (May 14, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-2567 0034).

⁷ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form signed by Karl Rodney (Oct. 3, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2567 0012).

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21. Later, on that same form, Mr. Rodney represented that "the trip sponsor(s) [had] not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip."⁸

3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

22. Rodney also certified that the information was "true, complete, and correct."⁹

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:

Name and title:

KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

23. Prior to the conference, the Standards Committee approved reimbursement of Congresswoman Kilpatrick's expenses by the Carib News Foundation.¹⁰

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Washington, DC 20515

October 21, 2008

The Honorable Carolyn C. Kilpatrick
U.S. House of Representatives
2264 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct hereby approves your proposed trip for you and your sister to St. Maarten, N.A. scheduled for November 6 to 9, 2008 sponsored by the Carib News Foundation.

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ *Id.* at 09-2567 0014.

¹⁰ Letter from the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct to Representative Carolyn C. Kilpatrick (Oct. 21, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2567 0007).

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24. At the conference, several corporations, including Citibank, IBM, AT&T, and others, were identified as “sponsors.”¹¹
25. On November 7, 2008, the conference’s organizer, Karl Rodney, began the first morning program by thanking Citigroup, Pfizer, Macy’s, IBM, AT&T, the Verizon Foundation and American Airlines, as well as their executives in attendance at the conference by name.¹² This morning session was recorded by an individual attending the conference and the recording was subsequently transcribed. The OCE obtained a copy of the transcript. Mr. Rodney described AT&T as “support[ing] the Conference all 13 years” (this was the thirteenth annual conference).¹³
26. Michael Flanigan, an executive from Citibank, spoke immediately after Mr. Rodney and described Citibank as the “lead sponsor of the premier event.”¹⁴
27. Following Mr. Flanigan’s remarks, and the remarks of several other speakers, Representative Kilpatrick spoke. At the end of her remarks she stated, “[a]nd to the sponsors, by the way, all of you, we couldn’t do this, be with you, help Karl if you weren’t here with us so we say thank you very much, you are so important. To all of the sponsors, thank you very much.”¹⁵
28. In an interview with the OCE, Representative Kilpatrick confirmed that she spoke at this session and thanked corporate entities identified at the conference as “sponsors.”¹⁶

¹¹ Photographs taken at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (Exhibit 5 at 09-2567 0068-0077) (The Board notes that the source of this information may have a bias, interest, or motive in this matter.).

¹² Transcript of Recording of November 7, 2008 AM Session of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (Exhibit 3 at 09-2567 0036-37). (The Board notes that the source of this information may have a bias, interest, or motive in this matter.).

¹³ *Id.* at 09-2567 0036.

¹⁴ *Id.* at 09-2567 0038.

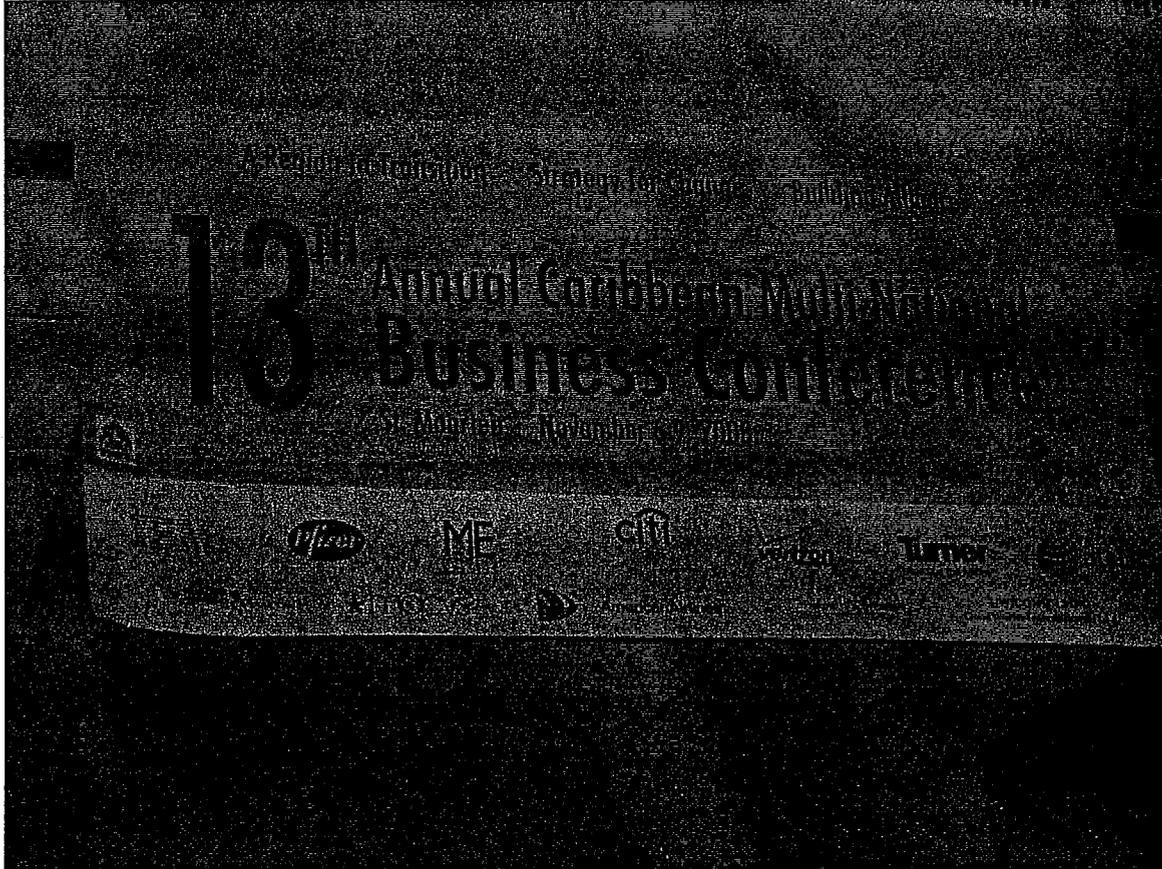
¹⁵ *Id.* at 09-2567 0053.

¹⁶ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Carolyn Kilpatrick (May 14, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-2567 0032-0033).

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29. In addition to these comments, signs for the conference displayed these corporations' logos, including signs hung behind the speaker's podium where Representative Kilpatrick spoke.¹⁷



30. After she spoke but at the same morning session, Representative Kilpatrick participated in a “ribbon cutting” ceremony in which she and representatives from these corporations and the Leader of Government of St. Maarten, Commissioner Sarah Wescott-Williams, stood for photographs.¹⁸

¹⁷ Photographs taken at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (Exhibit 5 at 09-2567 0069).

¹⁸ *Id.* at 09-2567 0070.

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31. In an interview with the OCE, Congresswoman Kilpatrick stated that she relied on the entity that invited her to the conference, the Carib News Foundation, to identify the sponsor of her trip and, further, that she relied on the Standards Committee, who pre-approved her trip, to determine if that information was accurate.¹⁹ As a result, Congresswoman Kilpatrick told the OCE that the involvement of these corporations in the conference did not raise questions in her mind about whether the Carib News Foundation was the sole sponsor of the conference.²⁰
32. The Board notes that the practice of relying entirely on the Standards Committee to determine the sponsor of a Member's travel carries with it a degree of risk. Further, while Members are required to receive pre-approval from the Standards Committee before they travel, it is the Member, and not the Standards Committee, that is ultimately accepting the travel from a private sponsor. The Board reads the pre-clearance process as

¹⁹ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Carolyn Kilpatrick (May 14, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-2567 0034).

²⁰ *Id.* at 09-2567 0033.

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a free-standing requirement the House adopted in 2007. There is no indication that the House intended it to supplant, or certainly completely supplant, Members' responsibility to abide by the travel rules when they accept privately sponsored travel.⁴ As a result, it is the Board's view that a reasonable reading of the travel rules places responsibility for identifying the sponsor with both the Member and the Standards Committee and not the Standards Committee alone. This shared responsibility also reflects the practical reality that, because the Member actually takes the trip, and the Standards Committee does not, the Member may, in certain circumstances, have access to information about the trip not available to the Standards Committee. In this instance, the Members had information about the sponsors of the conference not available to the Standards Committee, namely that numerous corporations were identified as sponsors of the conference at the conference.

33. Further, as described below, these other entities were, in fact, sponsors of the conference.

B. CARIB NEWS also Sponsored Congresswoman Kilpatrick's Travel

34. Karl Rodney is the publisher of the CARIB NEWS, a weekly newspaper published in New York. He also identified himself as the CEO of the Carib News Foundation on the Private Sponsor Travel Certification described above.²¹

35. According to Mr. Rodney, "general funds" of CARIB NEWS were "pooled" with payments from corporate sponsors, made both to CARIB NEWS and the Carib News Foundation and fees from attendees at the conference to pay conference expenses including "travel" and "hotel payments."²²

36. Therefore, CARIB NEWS was also effectively a sponsor of Congresswoman Kilpatrick's trip.

C. Corporate Donations Were Earmarked for the Conference

37. *According to the House Ethics Manual:*

The rule and implementing regulations are concerned with the organization(s) or individual(s) that actually pay for travel. Thus, for example, when a nonprofit organization pays for travel with donations that were earmarked, either formally

²¹ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form signed by Karl Rodney (Oct. 3, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2567 0012).

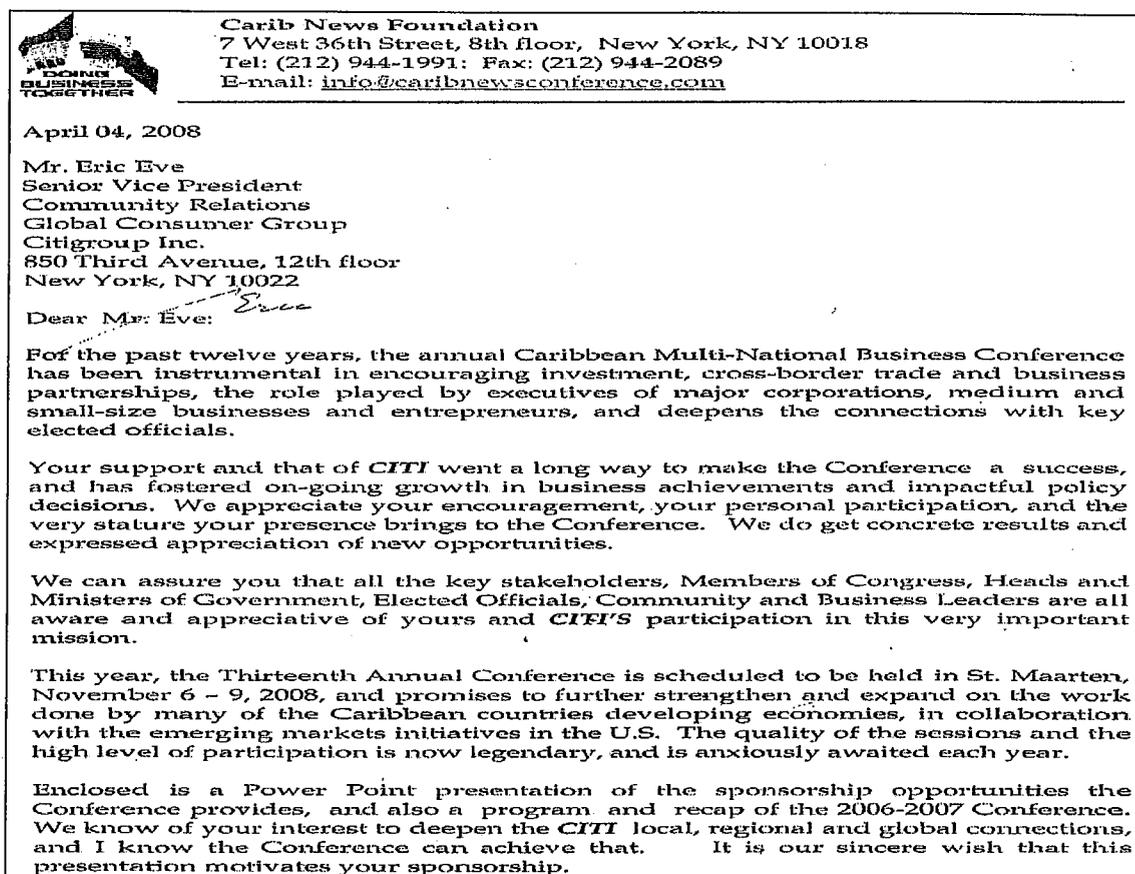
²² Letter from Joel Cohen, Counsel for Karl Rodney (May 18, 2009) (Exhibit 6 at 09-2567 0080).

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or informally, for the trip, each such donor is deemed a —private source for the trip and (1) must be publicly disclosed as a trip sponsor on the applicable travel forms and (2) must itself be required to satisfy the above standards on proper sources of travel expenses.

38. In the course of conducting its review, the OCE has learned that the Carib News Foundation solicited earmarked funds for the conference. For example, Carib News Foundation sent a solicitation letter to Citigroup, Inc.²³



39. Attached to this solicitation letter was a PowerPoint presentation.²⁴ The presentation solicits money only for the conference and not for any other purpose, outlining the benefits of each level of sponsorship – Platinum, Gold, and Silver, along with lesser

²³ Letter from Carib News Foundation to Mr. Eric Eve, Citigroup, Inc. (Apr. 4, 2008) (Exhibit 7 at 09-2567 0084-0085) (a nearly identical letter was sent to IBM, AT&T, Pfizer, Verizon Foundation and others).

²⁴ *Id.* at 09-2567 0086-0101.

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levels of sponsorship – in terms of the conference.²⁵ In each instance, the sponsorship covers travel related expenses such as gala events and meals.

PARTICIPATION

PLATINUM LEVEL - \$75,000

- ◆ Keynote Speaker at Main Event
- ◆ Sponsor Private VIP Reception and specially arranged forum
- ◆ Special Awards Presentation
- ◆ Display, Exhibition and signage
- ◆ Area of Conference -Reserved for exclusive sponsorship
- ◆ Full page Ad in program
- ◆ Air Transportation for 2 people
- ◆ Accommodations: One Suite and One Standard Room
- ◆ Included in all printed materials
- ◆ Included in Internet promotion
- ◆ Display company logo and link to our website
- ◆ Sponsor of a Gala Event
- ◆ Sponsor and Participate in a workshop
- ◆ Representative listed in program with bio and photo

²⁵ *Id.* at 09-2567 0094-0097.

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PARTICIPATION

GOLD LEVEL - \$50,000

- ◆ Sponsor a Workshop
- ◆ Sponsor a Gala Event
- ◆ Display, Exhibition and signage
- ◆ Included in all Printed Material
- ◆ Included in all Internet Promotion
- ◆ Display of Company Logo and Link to Our Website
- ◆ Full Page Ad in Program
- ◆ Representation in the Brochure
- ◆ Air Transportation & room accommodations for 1



The OCE also learned that at least four of the corporations identified at the conference did in fact make payments to the Carib News Foundation and CARIB NEWS (the newspaper) earmarked for the conference. The Carib News Foundation itself appears to be nothing more than a conduit in this case, and a partial one at that, for payments from corporations to support the conference. There is no evidence that the organization has filed a tax return with the IRS, under either Carib News Foundation or Carib News Charities, since 2005.²⁶ On that form, the Carib News Foundation is shown as having no assets, no income and no expenses.²⁷ Not a single witness from a sponsor interviewed by the OCE knew of any other work of the Foundation. Indeed one witness, from IBM, was not aware that the Foundation played a role in the conference.²⁸

40. **Citigroup.** Citigroup made a \$75,000 payment to the CARIB NEWS for the conference.²⁹

41. **Verizon Foundation.** Verizon Foundation made a \$35,000 payment to the Carib News Charities³⁰ for the conference.³¹

²⁶ Letter from IRS to OCE (April 17, 2009) (Exhibit 8 at 09-2567 0106-0118).

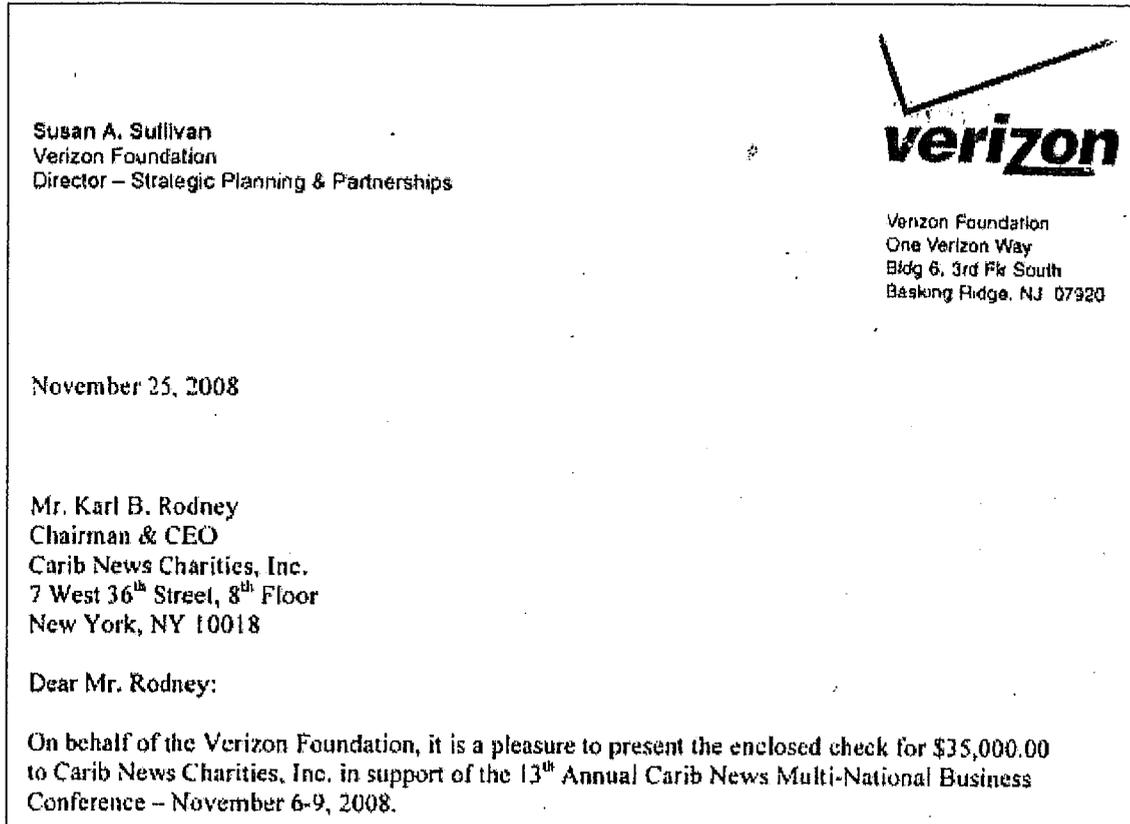
²⁷ *Id.* at 09-2567 0106-0108.

²⁸ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of IBM (May 8, 2009) (Exhibit 9 at 09-2567 0122).

²⁹ Documents submitted to the OCE by Citigroup (Exhibit 7 at 09-2567 0083).

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42. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation said the Verizon Foundation funded the Carib News Foundation for the first time in 2008 and that the grant was issued to provide funding for the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference.³²
43. **IBM.** IBM made a \$20,000 payment to Carib News Foundation for the conference as indicated on the invoice that CARIB NEWS, INC. (not Carib News Foundation) sent IBM.³³

³⁰ Mr. Rodney accepted corporate payments under the names of three entities: The Carib News, the Carib News Foundation, and the Carib News Charities. According to the Secretary of State for the State of New York, the organization that currently operates as the Carib News Foundation originally operated under the name the Carib News Charities.

³¹ Documents submitted to the OCE by the Verizon Foundation (Exhibit 10 at 09-2567 0127).

³² Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Verizon Foundation (Mar. 23, 2009) (Exhibit 11 at 09-2567 0133).

³³ Documents submitted by IBM to the OCE (Exhibit 13 at 09-2567 0150).

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CARIB NEWS INC. 7 WEST 36TH STREET 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, 10018 212-944-1991		Invoice	
		Date	Invoice #
		7/16/2008	45122
Bill To			
Wanda McKenzie IBM 2607 Jesters Court Marietta, GA 30068			
Description		Amount	
Sponsorship Multi-National Business Conference 2008 TAX ID 13-362060		20,000.00	

44. **Macy's.** Macy's made a \$35,000 payment to CARIB NEWS for the conference.³⁴
45. **Pfizer.** Pfizer made a \$25,000 payment to CARIB NEWS for the conference.³⁵
46. Only American Airlines explicitly limited their sponsorship of the conference to individuals who were not elected officials, prohibiting CARIB NEWS from using any part of their sponsorship on Members of Congress and other government officials and their staff.³⁶ No other sponsor with whom we spoke placed restrictions on how or on whom their contribution could be spent. The only expectation was that the contribution would be used for expenses associated with the conference.

D. Because Entities that Employ or Retain Lobbyists Sponsored the Event, Congresswoman Kilpatrick's Involvement Should Have Been Limited to One Day

³⁴ Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 from Macy's (Exhibit 20 at 09-2567 0217).

³⁵ Interview with Investigative Counsel on May 22, 2009.

³⁶ Documents submitted by American Airlines to the OCE (Exhibit 14 at 09-2567 0151.2) and OCE Investigative Counsel interview with American Airlines Representative (Mar. 5, 2009) (American Airlines provided an in-kind contribution in the form of ten roundtrip tickets to be used by Carib News in any manner they chose with the exception that no ticket could be used for an elected official or the official's staff or family. The estimated value of their contribution was between \$6,200 and \$7,500).

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47. According to the House Ethics Manual:

One-Day Event Trip. *The sole exception to the general prohibition on accepting officially-connected travel from a private source that retains or employs lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal is for trips involving attendance at or participation in one-day event (exclusive of travel time and an overnight stay).*

*Under the rule, it is permissible for a Member or staff person to accept and meals related to a **single night's lodging** and meals related to the trip, if offered by the trip sponsor. Members and staff must limit their involvement in connection with the event to a **single calendar day**, exclusive of travel time and an overnight stay. A Member or staff person may therefore attend only a single day of a multiple-day conference, forum, or other event that is being hosted primarily for individuals other than congressional invitees.*

*Under the Committee's travel regulations and guidelines implementing the travel provisions of the gift rule, the Committee may permit a **second night's stay** when determined —on a case-by-case basis to be practically required to participate in the one-day event (House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)). Some circumstances in which the Committee may permit a second night's stay are for certain long-distance trips, when a Member or staff person is participating in a full day's worth of officially-connected activities such that a second night's stay is necessary to accomplish the purpose of the trip, or other exceptional circumstances that are described in detail by the traveler. The traveler will be personally responsible for any expenses incurred beyond those allowed by the Committee in connection with the second night's stay.³⁷*

48. Citigroup, IBM and Verizon employ or retain lobbyists.³⁸

49. Congresswoman Kilpatrick spent four days at the conference.³⁹

50. There is substantial reason to believe that Congresswoman Kilpatrick violated *House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)* by accepting trip-related reimbursements from entities that employ or retain lobbyists for participating in an event for more than one day.

³⁷ House Ethics Manual (2008) at 92-93 (citing House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C) (emphasis in original)).

³⁸ Clerk of the House of Representatives Lobbying Disclosure Report 2008 (Exhibit 15 at 09-2567 0151.8).

³⁹ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (Nov. 20, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2567 0002).

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E. The Government of St. Maarten Made In-Kind Donations to the 2008 Conference and Played a Significant Role in Planning, Organizing and Conducting the 2008 Conference

51. The Government of St. Maarten was the host of the 2008 conference and the Leader of Government of St. Maarten personally invited Representative Kilpatrick to attend.⁴⁰

	<h2>Government of Sint Maarten</h2>
	<p>Sarah Wescot-Williams, M.Sc.</p>
<p>Telephone: (599) 543-1166</p> <p>Fax: (599) 542-4292</p> <p>E-mail: comed@sintmaarten.net</p>	<p>St. Maarten, August 28, 2008</p> <p>Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick U.S House of Representatives 1610 Longworth HOB Washington, DC 20515 <i>Phone: 202-225-2261</i> <i>Fax: 202-225-5730</i></p>
	<p>RECEIVED</p> <p>SEP 19 2008</p> <p>Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick Congressional Office</p>
	<p>Honorable Congresswoman Kilpatrick,</p> <p>The well-known Carib' News Foundation has once more chosen our island, St. Maarten, as venue for its 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference scheduled to be held from November 6 – 9, 2008 at the Sonesta Maho Beach Resort & Casino. The conference is being held under the theme: "A Region in Transition – Strategy for Change, Alliance for Progress".</p> <p>We are thrilled to host this very important and prestigious conference and it is my distinct pleasure, on behalf of the government and people of St. Maarten, to invite you personally to be part of this gathering which we hope would, as its theme suggests, map out a strategy for change and a reinvigorated alliance for progress during this period of obvious transition in U.S.–Caribbean relations.</p>

52. In that capacity, the Government of St. Maarten provided in-kind donations to support the conference and also had a substantial role in planning the conference. As a result, it was effectively a sponsor of the 2008 conference.⁴¹

⁴⁰ Letter from Leader of Government of St. Maarten, Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, to Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (Aug. 28, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2567 0009).

⁴¹ In 2007, the "host" of the conference was the Government of Antigua and Barbuda. In the event that the Government of Antigua and Barbuda provided the same support as St. Maarten did in 2008, then the members may

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53. Rodney provided the Leader of Government of St. Maarten, Commissioner Sarah Wescott-Williams, with a list of "Basic Requirements to Host Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference."⁴² These included:

- To provide the care and comfort for the VIP's attending i.e.
 - To provide 25 all-inclusive rooms for the VIP's and members of Congress attending;
 - To provide appropriate mode of transportation for VIP's and members of Congress - cars or specialized vans - not buses;
- To be a designated sponsor in one of the categories: *Title, Main or Regular Sponsor* (See Attachment)
- To organize a "Host Country Evening" - The Friday evening, the host country will host at an appropriate location an evening of food, refreshment, cultural presentation and entertainment.
- Provide for local entertainment for the various functions --
 - The Opening Ceremonies
 - The Reception
 - The Gala Dinner
- To assist in Promotion and Publicity of the conference both locally and through international offices and official publications.
- Assist in securing competitive hotel rates.
- Equip and staff conference secretariat.
- Prime Minister to issue invitations along with CARIB NEWS to members of the US Congress, other Prime Ministers and Ministers of Government.
- Participate in the Forum with Members of Congress.
- Arrange tours and activities of interest for VIP's and/or their spouse.

54. According to a statement from Mr. Rodney submitted to the OCE, the Government of St. Maarten, (1) developed local Host Committees to facilitate local planning; (2) helped

have accepted gifts from a foreign government which would have been reportable under the Foreign Gift and Decorations Act. In addition, if the Government of Antigua provided these gifts to the Members, and if they were more than \$335 in value, then the Members should have disclosed them on their financial disclosure form for 2007, which was filed in May 2008.

⁴² Letter from Karl Rodney to Commissioner Sarah Wescott-Williams (Aug. 13, 2008) (Exhibit 16 at 09-2567 0151.15).

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negotiate the rate with the hotel, (3) assisted in developing the then (4) assisted in identifying local speakers, including the Leader of G assisted in local publicity, (6) provided local entertainment, including cultural items, (7) arranged Host Country Evening on Friday, November 16, 2007, a group was transported to another property for refreshments and entertainment with local transportation for some CARIB NEWS employees and helped arrange accommodations for some guests (not paying for such accommodations), (9) participated as event speakers, and (10) issued invitations to attend to specially invited guests.⁴³ These contributions to the conference were all in-kind, according to Mr. Rodney, and he did not provide an estimated value for them.⁴⁴

55. In addition, because these donations to the conference are from a foreign government, Members are required to take certain actions under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act.⁴⁵

56. Representative Kilpatrick told the OCE that she was unaware of what role the Government of St. Maarten played in the conference.⁴⁶

III. Role of the Chair's Counsel in the Approval of the 12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in 2007

57. As previously stated, Congresswoman Kilpatrick told the OCE that she relied on the Standards Committee to determine who the true sponsor of the conference was based on information the Standards Committee received from the organization that invited her to the conference—the Carib News Foundation.⁴⁷ In the course of the Board's review, the OCE requested documents from Mr. Karl Rodney, the CEO of the Carib News Foundation. Mr Rodney voluntarily submitted documents to the OCE that included, among other things, communication with certain members of the staff of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct in 2007. The contents of these documents from 2007 are relevant because they indicate the role of the corporations was concealed from the Committee in 2008.

58. The Board requested that the Committee provide the information submitted to it for 2008 and the Committee declined to do so.

⁴³ Letter from Joel Cohen, Counsel for Karl Rodney (May 18, 2009) (Exhibit 6 at 09-2567 0079-0080).

⁴⁴ *Id.*

⁴⁵ 5 U.S.C. § 7342.

⁴⁶ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Carolyn Kilpatrick (May 14, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-2567 0033).

⁴⁷ *Id.* at 09-2567 0034.

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59. The documents submitted by Mr. Rodney show that in 2007 the CARIB NEWS initially identified, on several occasions, other corporations as sponsors of the Conference. The designation of these corporate entities as sponsors presented a problem for CARIB NEWS and the Members who wished to attend the conference insofar as their attendance would be limited to one day. In 2007, as a result of changes in the travel rules, a Member could not, in most instances, participate in an event (such as a conference) for more than one day if their travel to and participation in the event was paid for by an entity that employed or retained a lobbyist.⁴⁸ Many of the corporate entities who sponsored the 2007, as well as the 2008 conference, employed or retained lobbyists. Although CARIB NEWS initially identified these entities as sponsors, following interactions with the counsel to the then-chair of the Committee, apparently without the knowledge of the Standards Committee staff attorney assigned to review the trip, the documents identifying these organizations as sponsors were changed.
60. Subsequently, in 2008, the Carib News Foundation submitted documents that omitted the role of these other corporations as sponsors of the conference. Further, the staff attorney assigned to review the trip in 2008 was not the same staff attorney that reviewed the trip in 2007.
61. The earliest communication between CARIB NEWS or the Carib News Foundation and anyone associated with the Ethics Committee in the documents submitted to the OCE from Mr. Rodney is an e-mail dated September 17, 2007 from Patricia Louis, an Executive Assistant at CARIB NEWS, to Dawn Kelly Mobley, Counsel to the then-Chair of the Ethics Committee.⁴⁹
62. The next day, on September 18, 2007, Ms. Mobley responded and asked for "any information on your sponsor's status."⁵⁰
63. That same day Ms. Louis responded, identifying multiple corporations as "sponsors" of the trip.⁵¹

⁴⁸ House Ethics Manual (2008) at 92-93 (citing House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)).

⁴⁹ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Sept. 17, 2007, 3:47 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0174) (The Board elected not to interview Ms. Mobley and Ms. Olson because the Standards Committee voted against disclosing information to the OCE. The Board determined that it would have been an act of bad faith on the part of the OCE to attempt to interview staff and former staff of the Standards Committee in light of the Committee's refusal to grant OCE access to their records.).

⁵⁰ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 18, 2007, 12:57 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0174).

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We had received the forms from Shelley.
The sponsors to date are : MACYS, PFIZER, AMERICAN AIRLINES, GOLDEN KRUST
BAKERY, CARIBBEAN FOOD DELIGHTS, PREFERRED HEALTH PARTNERS, IBM,
AT&T/CINGULAR

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

64. In response that same day, Ms. Mobley asked, “[d]o any of these organizations have or retain a lobbyist?”⁵²

65. The next day, Ms. Mobley further responded asking Ms. Louis whether she, Ms. Mobley, should “assume” the sponsor was CARIB NEWS, despite the fact that Ms. Louis had not identified CARIB NEWS as a sponsor.⁵³ The Board notes that in her e-mail, Ms. Louis did not identify CARIB NEWS as a sponsor. Further, Ms. Mobley acknowledged that she had been told corporations identified by Ms. Louis were “sponsoring food and other parts of the Antigua travel.” Under House rules in place at the time, and under current rules, sponsoring a meal makes these corporations sponsors of a Member’s travel.⁵⁴ The Board also notes Ms. Mobley’s use of the phrase “safe review,” which the Board takes to mean a review which results in approval of the trip.

⁵¹ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Sept. 18, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0190) (The Board notes that while the document that contains the e-mail does not have a header which indicates a date and time, both the e-mail before it and responding to it are dated September 18, 2007).

⁵² E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 18, 2007, 7:03 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0189).

⁵³ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 19, 2007, 2:16 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0189).

⁵⁴ House Ethics Manual (2008) at 97-98.

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From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 2:16 PM
To: 'plouis'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Patricia:

I understand that several organizations will take part in sponsoring food and other parts of the Antigua travel. However, I need clarification on the *official* sponsor; that organization providing travel, lodging, and organizing the trip? Am I to assume it is CARIB NEWS? The official sponsoring organization must not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent (and the sponsor must have a direct and immediate relationship with the event or location being visited). To assist with this, I am scanning information/guidelines and emailing in just a moment. Please provide a fax number if that method of submittal will be more helpful. If there is someone handling this matter, please provide me their direct contact information as I must ensure adherence to these new guidelines pre-travel.

In any event, I do need to know who the official sponsor will be. I have assigned a staff attorney to review your documents and will remain in contact with you until this matter is finalized.

Please respond today or tomorrow at the latest. I will be traveling for a while thereafter and must ensure that my staff attorney has all that is necessary for a safe review.

Dawn Kelly Mobley
Ethics Counsel for Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones
Chairwoman, Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
202/225-7103

66. Later in the afternoon on September 19, 2007, Ms. Mobley sent Ms. Louis another e-mail where she discussed the limitations posed by the new travel rules the House had adopted in 2007. Ms. Mobley told Ms. Louis, "the new rules might prohibit some things you were able to do with so many different sponsors in the past." Thus, Ms. Mobley again acknowledged that these corporations were sponsors and that the new travel rules affected the nature of their participation in the trip.⁵⁵

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 3:23 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Lastly, just send the sponsor form asap for review. The new rules might prohibit some things you were able to do with so many different sponsors in the past, but until we get the form, we can't make the most informed decision. I have let the Congresswomen know we are awaiting your sponsor form. Just as you do, they would also like assurance. Thank you.

67. On September 21, 2007, Ms. Louis responded.⁵⁶

⁵⁵ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 19, 2007, 3:23 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0189).

⁵⁶ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Sept. 21, 2007, 1:56 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0187).

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Registration

From: plouis [plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2007 1:56 PM
To: 'Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Re Sponsorship Informallon

The official sponsor of the conference is the CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION, a not-for-profit 501C3 Organization that provides educational information about the Caribbean Region and its relationship with the US In doing business and developing good neighborly ties with the United States, security, health, education etc.

The CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION does not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent.

Please use me as your contact for the purposes of this Conference.

The form will be emailed to you this afternoon.

Regards

Patricia Louis

Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

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68. That same day, on September 21, 2007, Ms. Louis faxed Ms. Mobley a Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form. On the form Carib News Foundation is listed as the sponsor of the trip in question 1.⁵⁷

**U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct**

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

Carib News Foundath

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): _____

69. However, the Carib News Foundation listed a number of corporations as private sponsors, each with responsibility for planning and conducting the trip, in question 12.⁵⁸ This is at least the second instance where the Carib News Foundation identified these corporations as the trip's sponsors.

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: Pfizer-Education/Health
AT&T and IBM: provide technology to the region. MACYS - seeks new vendor sources. Citibank: opportunities
in the region.

70. This prompted the following e-mail from Ms. Mobley to Ms. Louis.⁵⁹ The Board notes that Ms. Mobley stated she was "working through" the Carib News Foundation's forms "before leaving them with our staff attorney."

⁵⁷ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form (Sept. 21, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0177).

⁵⁸ *Id.* at 09-2567 0178.

⁵⁹ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 25, 2007, 12:42 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0174).

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From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2007 12:42 PM
To: 'Louis'
Subject: Query

I am working through your forms before leaving them with our staff attorney and have a question. Query: Why did you not list CARIB NEWS as the sponsor as you'd indicated instead of Macy's, etc. The official sponsor for travel, lodging, and planning is still Carib News, correct?

71. Later that same day, Ms. Mobley queried further.⁶⁰ At least as of this date, following at least two instances where Ms. Louis identified these corporations as sponsors, Ms. Mobley appeared to treat these entities as "co-sponsors."

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:08 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Query

We are trying to work through a problem in approving the co-sponsors piece. Are they each paying for a one-day, widely attended event or more days? Please read the Gift Rules I forwarded you on this matter.

72. On October 3, 2007, Ms. Mobley informed Ms. Louis that Susan Olson was the staff attorney assigned to review the trip.⁶¹
73. A copy of the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form provided to a Member's office on October 5, 2007, shows that by October 5, 2007, following its interaction with Ms. Mobley, Carib News Foundation changed its answer to question 12 regarding other private sponsors. As previously highlighted, as of September 21, 2007, Carib News Foundation provided the following answer to question 12.⁶²

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: Pfizer-Education/Health AT&T and IBM - provide technology to the region. MACY's - seeks new vendor sources, Citibank - opportunities in the region.

74. However, as of October 5, 2007, it provided a different answer to question 12.⁶³

⁶⁰ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 25, 2007, 5:08 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0174).

⁶¹ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 3, 2007, 12:39 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0171).

⁶² Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form (Sept. 21, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0177).

⁶³ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form (Oct. 5, 2007) (Exhibit 18 at 09-2567 0192).

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12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: _____
CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (SEE ATTACHED SHEET)

And the attached sheet provided the following information.⁶⁴

Item #12
CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemispheres.

On October 10, 2007, Susan Olson, the staff attorney on the Standards Committee assigned to review the trip e-mailed Ms. Louis the following questions⁶⁵ (and copied Ms. Mobley and the Chief Counsel of the Standards Committee at that time, Bill O'Reilly). While the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form for the trip had been changed by this date, the draft agenda for the conference apparently had not and still showed corporate sponsors for various events. What Ms. Olson does not appear to be aware of is the fact that Carib News Foundation had previously identified the same corporations she is raising questions about as private sponsors on its original Private Sponsor Travel Certification form.

Original Message
From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's

⁶⁴ *Id.* at 09-2567 0197.

⁶⁵ E-mail from Susan Olson to Patricia Louis (Oct. 10, 2007, 4:01 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0159-0160).

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(Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are sponsoring sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]" which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson
Counsel
House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

75. The Committee's Advisory Opinion dated October 27, 2006 indicates, as Ms. Olson wrote, that Carib News Foundation told the Standards Committee in 2006 that there were several corporate entities that sponsored the conference.⁶⁶ The "Advisory Opinion" did not conclude that these entities were, in fact, the trip's sponsors, as the e-mail seems to indicate.

⁶⁶ Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, Advisory Opinion (Oct. 27, 2006) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0183-0185).

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76. A draft agenda for the conference dated October 3, 2007, identified a “sponsor” for each event listed.⁶⁷ This appears to be the version of the agenda that Olson is referring to in her e-mail. For example, “Preferred Health Partners” is identified as the sponsor of this event on “Port & Airport Security—The Mandates.”⁶⁸

<u>PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES</u>	
Moderator	Lance Ogiste Hon. Bennie Thompson
Dr. Basil Wilson	
<u>Venue</u>	
Sponsor - Preferred Health Partners	

And Citi is identified as the sponsor of this event on “Community Outreach – Education – Access and Collaboration.”⁶⁹

4:00pm - 5:30pm	-	<u>COMMUNITY OUTREACH -</u> <u>EDUCATION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION</u>
Venue:	-	Off Site
Sponsor	-	CITI
Moderator:	-	Michael Flanigan
Speakers:	-	Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College Hon. Danny Davis - Member of Congress Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress Hon. Bertrand Joseph

⁶⁷ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 3, 2007) (Exhibit 19 at 09-2567 0198-0215).

⁶⁸ *Id.* at 09-2567 0204-0205.

⁶⁹ *Id.* at 09-2567 0211.

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77. Ms. Louis forwarded Ms. Olson's e-mail to Ms. Mobley, Congressman Charles Rangel's Chief of Staff George Dalley and Delegate Donna Christensen's scheduler Shelley Thomas, and asked them to advise her on a response.⁷⁰

-----Original Message-----
From: plouis <plouis@nycaribnews.com>
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn Thomas, Shelley Dalley, George
Sent: Wed Oct 10 17:56:25 2007
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval issues

Please see e-mail I received from Ms. Olson of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

A possible response could be: The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation. As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Please advise us.

Regards and Thanks

Ms. Louis appears to be pre-clearing her response to questions posed by the Standards Committee staff attorney. There is no indication that the staff attorney knew that the answer to her question had already been discussed with the counsel to the then-chair of the Standards Committee. Substantively, based on documents obtained by the OCE and interviews with sponsors, the statement "the sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip" appears to be true. However, the statement "and the general work of the Foundation," does not appear to be true. All of the sponsors OCE interviewed stated unequivocally that the contribution was intended for the conference.⁷¹

⁷⁰ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley, George Dalley, and Shelley Thomas (Oct. 10, 2007, 5:56 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0163).

⁷¹ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of IBM (May 8, 2009) (Exhibit 9); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation (Mar. 23, 2009) (Exhibit 11); Memorandum of Interview of Representative of Citi (Mar. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 4); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 from Macy's (Exhibit 20).

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78. Less than an hour later Ms. Mobley responded.⁷² The Board notes Ms. Mobley's concern with whether any of the corporate sponsors paid for an event and also retained a lobbyist" and her conclusion that if they did, Members of Congress could only attend for one day.

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 6:49 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Her question centers on whether any of these "co-sponsors" retains a lobbyist or foreign. This is the issue you and I focused on previously. It is a central problem if any do and are paying for the events. If so, you are in the same position as last year with one-day events. Call Susan back tomorrow as early as possible. Hopefully, these co-sponsors don't retain lobbyists, but you should have their representations on this matter. At a minimum, Macy's does, right? Alternatively if they are only sponsoring event tables or the like, a lobbyist will not be problematic.

Sent using BlackBerry

79. Ms. Louis then faxed Ms. Mobley.⁷³ The Board notes that Ms. Louis again appears to be pre-clearing her responses to the staff attorney, Ms. Olson, with Ms. Mobley ("Kindly review and advise before I send to Ms. Olson.").

⁷² E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 10, 2007, 6:49 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0165).

⁷³ Fax from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Oct. 11, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0162).

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 THE NEW YORK CARIBNEWS THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 48 FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018	
TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089 E-MAIL ADDRESS: <u>NYCARIB@AOL.COM</u> ; <u>CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET</u>	
FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET	
TO: Dawn Kelly Mobley	FROM: P. Louis <i>[Signature]</i>
COMPANY: Ethics Counsel for Cong. Stephanie Tubbs Jones	DATE: 10/11/07
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: Travel Form	
<input type="checkbox"/> URGENT <input type="checkbox"/> FOR REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE REPLY <input type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION	
Further to our conversations of this morning, following is the Travel Certification Form ..	
<u>The Conference is paid for by the Carib News Foundation. The companies are participants, are not sponsors or co-sponsors for any part of the trip and play no role in the planning or content.</u>	
The program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants.	
I regret the mis-understanding and thank you for holding my hand as I go through and grow through this process which is new to me.	
Kindly review and advise before I send to Ms. Olsen.	
I look forward to hearing from you.	

80. The Board further notes that Ms. Louis represented that, "the program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants," an action taken following Ms. Louis' interactions with Ms. Mobley. A copy of the revised agenda was submitted by another

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Member of Congress who attended the conference.⁷⁴ The Board notes that this “updated” schedule changed the label applied to “sponsors” to “participants” and in some cases deleted any mention of the corporate entity that had previously been identified as a “sponsor.”

10/24/2007 19:00 2129442089

*Updated Schedule
for Carib News* PAGE 03

WORKING DRAFT 10/22

12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
Antigua & Barbuda

81. This event was previously identified in the earlier draft as being “sponsored” by Preferred Health Partners.⁷⁵ Now it identifies them as merely a “participant.”⁷⁶

PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATE

Moderator : Mr. Lance Ogiste
Hon. Bernice Thompson
Hon. Dwer Astaphan

Venue Sandals Grande

Participant - Preferred Health Partners

⁷⁴ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 22, 2007) (Exhibit 21 at 09-2567 0221-0232).

⁷⁵ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 3, 2007) (Exhibit 19 at 09-2567 0204-0205).

⁷⁶ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 22, 2007) (Exhibit 20 at 09-2567 0225).

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82. In another example, the Board notes that the following event was previously identified as being sponsored by CITI.⁷⁷ Now CITI is not even mentioned.⁷⁸ Michael Flanigan, the moderator, was an executive at CITI at the time and represented the company at the conference.⁷⁹

5:00pm - 6:30pm	-	COMMUNITY OUTREACH - <u>EDUCATION & YOUTH DIRECTION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION</u>
Venue:	-	Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Centre
Moderator:	-	Michael Flanigan
Speakers:	-	Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress Hon. Bertrand Joseph

83. These changes were entirely cosmetic. There is no indication that the corporations' substantive role in the conference changed in any way.

⁷⁷ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 3, 2007) (Exhibit 19 at 09-2567 0211).

⁷⁸ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 22, 2007) (Exhibit 21 at 09-2567 0231).

⁷⁹ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of Citi (Mar. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 4).

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84. That same day, October 11, 2007, Ms. Louis responded to Ms. Olson, stating that “[t]he sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip.”⁸⁰ The Board notes that this is precisely the answer she had pre-cleared with Mobley.

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:33 AM
To: Olson, Susan
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,
In response to your e-mail:
The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation.
As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

No federally registered lobbyist or foreign agent will be accompanying the Members or participating in the program.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

85. Ms. Olson then forwarded her exchange with Ms. Louis to Bill O'Reilly, the Staff Director and Chief Counsel of the Ethics Committee at that time, and to Dawn Mobley.⁸¹ Based on this e-mail, it appears that Ms. Olson was unaware that Mobley had been communicating directly with the Carib News Foundation. There is also no evidence that Ms. Mobley told her she had been involved in this manner. Witnesses for the various sponsors told the OCE that they did contribute funding directly to the trip (the conference) and in no case did they simply make donations to the “general funds” of the CARIB NEWS or the Carib News Foundation.⁸²

⁸⁰ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Susan Olson (Oct. 10, 2007, 10:33 AM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0159).

⁸¹ E-mail from Susan Olson to Bill O'Reilly and Dawn Kelly Mobley (Oct. 12, 2007 9:29 AM) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0158-0159).

⁸² Memorandum of Interview of Representative of IBM (May 8, 2009) (Exhibit 9); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation (Mar. 23, 2009) (Exhibit 11); Memorandum of Interview of Representative of Citi (Mar. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 4); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 from Macy's (Exhibit 20).

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From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:29 AM
To: O'Reilly, Bill; Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Bill and Dawn,
Please note the following response from Ms. Louis at Carib News. Unfortunately, it appears that if each sponsor contributes funding directly to the trip (an earmark of funds) and not simply to the general funds of Carib News, then the assumption is that all of these entities are co-sponsors of the trip for purposes of the House travel rules. If that is the case and since it is likely that at least one of these co-sponsors hires or retains a federally registered lobbyist, the trip could only be a one-day event trip. Thus the Committee can't approve the trip as it currently exists.

But, if you have a different interpretation of the below information from Ms. Louis, please do let me know. Thanks! Susan

86. Ms. Mobley then forwarded Ms. Olson's internal e-mail to Ms. Louis.⁸³ The Board notes that Ms. Mobley counseled that these "other organizations" can "participate" in the program but "should not help pay for the trip."

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:59 AM
To: 'plouis'
Subject: FW: Confidential

Please read both emails below. Give Susan a call as soon as you work through the kink, let her know you are following up. Please make yourself available to work through this matter today. Thank you Patricia. (These other organizations can participate in the program but should not help pay for the trip).

87. Later that day, Ms. Mobley sent Ms. Louis an additional e-mail.⁸⁴ As previously stated, the sponsors whom the OCE interviewed all stated that they did not "support [the] foundation annually" and did specifically designate their donations for the 2007 conference. Either Ms. Mobley was repeating inaccurate information Ms. Louis had given her, or she was giving inaccurate information to Ms. Olson without prompting.

⁸³ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 12, 2007 9:59 AM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0158).

⁸⁴ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 12, 2007 1:55 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0158).

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Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]

Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 1:55 PM

To: plouls

Subject: RE: Confidential

The fax did not come through. I will be stepping out of the office for the remainder of the day, but will be in early Monday. Please follow up again with Susan. I have explained that the organizations you labeled as co-sponsors are not. They support your foundation annually, but have not and will not pay for the Members trip. This is simply a misunderstanding of the terms "sponsor," "contributor," and "participant" as used in the Ethics rules which is why I sent you the Rules book for preparation.

Once you are able to clarify these issues and make sure your itinerary passes too, you should be fine. An Ethics Committee Staff Attorney must review and approve as well. Your Staff Attorney is Susan.

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88. Ms. Olson then sent Ms. Louis additional questions about the corporate entities previously identified as "sponsors."⁸⁵

From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 2:41 PM
To: plouis
cc: Kelly Mobley, Dawn; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Louis,

Please explain in more detail your email message below relative to the "sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip." In this regard, do the following entities pay for any of the expenses of the trip for the invited House Members, including roundtrip air transportation costs, lodging costs, meal costs, cost of a particular meal or reception, etc.?

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM

- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Susan L. Olson
Counsel
House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

89. Three days later, Ms. Louis sent an e-mail to Ms. Mobley, but addressed to Ms. Olson.⁸⁶ This may have been inadvertent or, based on their previous practice, Ms. Louis may have

⁸⁵ E-mail from Susan Olson to Patricia Louis (Oct. 12, 2007 2:41 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0155).

⁸⁶ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Oct. 18, 2007 11:00 AM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0153).

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done this before she then sent it to Ms. Olson. This is the final communication regarding the 2007 conference provided to the OCE.

From: plouis [plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 11:00 AM
To: 'Kelly Mobley, Dawn'
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,
In response to your e-mail, the answer to your question is NO.
Regards and Thanks for your patience.

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

90. In an interview with the OCE, a staff member of Representative Rangel's office, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office, described discussions with Ms. Louis and Ms. Mobley in 2007 on the topic of how the new travel rules would affect the Members' participation in the 2007 conference.⁸⁷ The staff member said that Ms. Louis, and Mr. and Mrs. Rodney told him that the then Chair of the Standards Committee had assigned her counsel on the Committee, Ms. Mobley, to "find a way" to allow Members of Congress to participate in the conference under the new travel rules passed by the House in 2007.⁸⁸ The staff member told the OCE that Congressman Rangel told him that the then-Chair had made similar statements to him.

91. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office said the "framework" that was decided upon was that the Carib News Foundation would raise money from corporate donors who had previously sponsored the conference and that this money in turn would be deposited in a "common fund" that would then be used to pay for the conference. It was Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office's understanding that if this was done, then Members of Congress could participate in the conference without any restrictions imposed by the new rules. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office said that it was important to break the link between the corporations and the conference under the new rules and that using the Foundation in this way would enable that to happen. Staff

⁸⁷ Memorandum of Interview of Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office (May 27-28, 2009) (Exhibit 22).

⁸⁸ *Id.* at 09-2657 0235.

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Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office said he learned of this new framework for the conference from Mr. and Mrs. Rodney and that they represented this approach had come from Ms. Mobley on the Standards Committee.

92. This conduct in 2007 is relevant to the present review for a number of reasons. First, in and of itself, the intervention of the Chair's counsel in this matter is troubling and more likely constituted an improper manipulation of the clearance process. Following Ms. Mobley's intervention, Carib News Foundation changed the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form to delete any mention of private sponsors before it was sent to the Standards Committee's staff attorney assigned to review the matter. This occurred after Carib News Foundation had told Ms. Mobley that these corporations were sponsors of the conference on several occasions. Ms. Louis's initial, and presumably truthful, submissions regarding the conference described the corporate entities as sponsors. However, if the corporations were sponsors of the conference, as opposed to Carib News Foundation, then the Members of Congress ability to attend would have been limited because, the corporations, unlike the Carib News Foundation, employed or retained lobbyists. It appears from the correspondence between Ms. Mobley and Ms. Louis, and Ms. Olson's apparent ignorance of the correspondence, that Ms. Mobley assisted Ms. Louis in preparing inaccurate answers for Ms. Olson in order to ensure that Ms. Olson would approve the trip in a manner that would not limit the attendance of the Members of Congress. Ms. Mobley's involvement in the process seems to have prevented the Standards Committee and its staff from correctly performing its responsibilities. Ms. Olson's approval of the trip was predicated on an incomplete or inaccurate factual record, in which Ms. Mobley apparently was complicit, putting at risk those Members of Congress who relied on that approval.

93. The 2007 conduct and attendant misrepresentations appear to have directly influenced what occurred in 2008. When the Carib News Foundation submitted materials to the Standards Committee for their approval of the 2008 conference, the Carib News Foundation took the same approach that they had been counseled to take in 2007 and did not disclose the role of the corporate sponsors on the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form or the conference agenda.

94. In fact, in 2008, Carib News Foundation again first submitted its document to Ms. Mobley.⁸⁹ The Board notes that while Ms. Mobley remains an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives as of the date of this report, the above described conduct did not occur after the day the House passed the resolution creating the OCE, and therefore,

⁸⁹ Fax from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Aug. 20, 2008) (Exhibit 23 at 09-2567 0247-0269).

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under the terms of the that resolution, the OCE does not have jurisdiction to open a preliminary review into Ms. Mobley's conduct.



**THE NEW YORK
CARIB NEWS**
THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 28 FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: **Kelly Mobley**

FROM: **Patricia Louis**

COMPANY: **Committee on Standards of
official conduct**

DATE: **8/20/08**

FAX NUMBER: **202-225-7392**

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:

RE: **2008 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE**

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Following is the completed form and attachments re travel for Members of Congress to attend the 2008 Multinational Business Conference scheduled for November 6-9, 2008 in St. Maarten.

Regards

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IV. The Value of the Trip Reported on the Member's Post-Travel Disclosure Form

95. *Under House Rule 25 clause 5(d), Members are required to obtain prior approval of the Standards Committee for trips where the Member's travel expenses will be reimbursed by a private source. The Standards Committee has adopted regulations, including a pre- and post-travel form Members must complete, pursuant to House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B)⁹⁰ that requires Members to publicly disclose "trip expenses."*
96. *According to the House Ethics Manual, "[t]he rule and implementing regulations are concerned with the organization(s) or individual(s) that actually pay for travel." House Ethics Manual (2008) at 97.*
97. There is substantial reason to believe that Congresswoman Kilpatrick violated House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B) by underreporting the value of the travel reimbursements she received to attend the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference.

A. Representations from Carib News Foundation

98. Carib News Foundation submitted a Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form to each Member it sponsored for the 2008 trip—Representatives Christensen, Kilpatrick, Payne, Rangel and Thompson.⁹¹ This form was provided to each Member Office and then submitted by the Member Office to the Standards Committee as part of the pre-travel approval process.

⁹⁰ House Rule 25(5)(h)(i)(1)(B) directs the Standards Committee to establish, "regulations describing the information it will require individuals subject to this clause to submit to the committee in order to obtain the prior approval of the committee for any travel covered by this clause . . ." On February 20, 2007, the Committee issued guidelines and regulations concerning the travel restrictions and requirements.

⁹¹ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form signed by Karl Rodney (Oct. 3, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2567 0012).

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21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	410	280	145
For each accompanying family member	410	0	145

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$150 \$ 25	Conference Registration Local transportation
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:

Name and title:

KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

Organization:

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

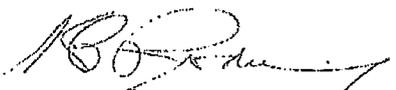
99. The Board notes that the Carib News Foundation provided the same exact dollar figure for each Member of Congress that attended the conference despite the fact that Carib News Foundation recognized on the same form that the Congressional travelers were travelling to and from different cities. In fact, the Congressional travelers came from St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands; Detroit, Michigan; Newark, New Jersey; New York, New York; and Jackson, Mississippi.

100. After the conference, the Carib News Foundation provided a memorandum to Representatives Rangel, Thompson, Payne and Kilpatrick and Delegate Christensen that represented to contain the value of the trip-related reimbursements.⁹²

⁹² Memorandum from Carib News Foundation to Representatives Rangel, Thompson, Payne and Kilpatrick and Delegate Christensen (Nov. 18, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2567 0004-0005).

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	Carib News Foundation New York, NY 10018 14-2089	7 West 36th Street, 8th Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com												
TO :	Congressman Charles Rangel Congresswoman Donna Christensen Congressman Bennie Thompson Congressman Donald Payne Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick													
FROM :	Karl B. Rodney													
DATE :	November 18, 2008													
SUBJECT :	Business Conference Travel Information													
<p>The following is the breakdown of the value for the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference held in St. Maarten, N.A. from November 6-9, 2008.</p> <table><tr><td>Airfare</td><td>-</td><td>\$410.00</td></tr><tr><td>Hotel</td><td>-</td><td>\$405.00</td></tr><tr><td>Registration/</td><td>-</td><td>\$175.00</td></tr><tr><td>Transportation</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>Total amount of package = \$990.00</p> 			Airfare	-	\$410.00	Hotel	-	\$405.00	Registration/	-	\$175.00	Transportation		
Airfare	-	\$410.00												
Hotel	-	\$405.00												
Registration/	-	\$175.00												
Transportation														

101. The Board notes that the Carib News Foundation provided the same "total transportation" figure to the Congressional travelers despite the fact that Carib News Foundation had, in its own files, airline tickets and receipts for each Congressional traveler that showed, with the exception of Congressman Payne, that the actual cost of the ticket was significantly higher.

102. In addition, according to Mr. Rodney, the cost charged to individuals to attend the conference for four days and three nights was \$840 for double occupancy or \$1085 for single occupancy. The cost of attendance included "room accommodations, meals, and admission to the Conference." However, these figures were not disclosed pre-travel to the Members or the Standards Committee, nor were these figures disclosed to the Members after the conference.

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B. Information Required from the Congressional Traveler

103. On her Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form,⁹³ Representative Kilpatrick certified her travel cost as the following:

9. **TRIP EXPENSES:** Obtain actual dollar amounts from the sponsor. If exact dollar amounts are unavailable by the due date, provide a good faith estimate and file an amended form once the correct amounts are received.

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses
For Member or Officer:	\$410.00	\$405.00	
For accompanying family member:	\$410.00	\$405.00	

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Specific Nature of Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For Member or Officer:	\$175.00	Registration Fee
For accompanying family member:	\$175.00	Registration Fee

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER: Carolyn C. Kilpatrick

DATE: Nov. 19, 2008

104. These figures are identical to the ones provided to Congresswoman Kilpatrick from Mr. Rodney on November 18, 2008.⁹⁴

105. However, documents from Congresswoman Kilpatrick's office show her airline ticket cost \$626.15, not \$410.⁹⁵ Representative Kilpatrick had copies of her flight itinerary showing this cost and the receipt for the tickets themselves in her files.

⁹³ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (Nov. 20, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2567 0002).

⁹⁴ Memorandum from Carib News Foundation to Representatives Rangel, Thompson, Payne and Kilpatrick and Delegate Christensen (Nov. 18, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2567 0004-0005).

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Reservations - Book Flight - View Reservation Details Page 2 of 3

Flight:	AMERICAN AIRLINES	390	Boeing 737-800:Passenger	Booking Code: Q
Departure:	MIA Miami	08:25 PM	(738)	
Arrival:	DTW Detroit	11:30 PM		3HR 5MIN
	KILPATRICK, CAROLYN SEAT 13C	Economy	FF# :AA AB33U50	

Receipt

PASSENGER	TICKET NUMBER	FARE	TAXES	TICKET TOTAL
KILPATRICK, CAROLYN	D012190117150	548.80 USD	77.35	626.15
Payment Type:	AMERICAN EXPRESS *****9426			Total 626.15 USD

106. Also in her files is a fax cover sheet that indicates she was sent the itinerary that showed the cost.⁹⁶



**Office of
Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick**

Date: 11/05/2008 Cover sheet plus 5 pages

To: CCK Office: _____

Fax Number: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Re: _____

Urgent For Review Please Comment Please Reply

Comments: Flight Info.

107. Representative Kilpatrick told the OCE that, as a matter of practice, staff gave her copies of her itinerary before any flight.⁹⁷

⁹⁵ Flight Reservation for Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (Nov. 5, 2008) (Exhibit 24 at 09-2567 0273).

⁹⁶ *Id.* at 09-2567 0271.

⁹⁷ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Carolyn Kilpatrick (May 14, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-2567 0032).

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108. According to the registration document in Congresswoman Kilpatrick's office files, her lodging, a "Conference Package Suite" cost \$1198, not \$580 (which includes housing and registration) as reported.⁹⁸

**Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi
Business Conference Registration Form - PI**

SAINT MAARTEN . NOVEMBER €

Before you begin your application, you may want to gather your supplementary documentation so that you have it ha complete all sections of the application form except for, in some cases, section 4 ('Transportation'). After you have e within 24 hours. For more information please contact NY Carib News at 212-944-1991.

Step One - Applicant Profile

Please provide the following contact information.

*Last Name: Kilpatrick	*First Name: Carolyn
*E-mail Address: cckilpatrick@mail.house.gov	Home Phone: _____
Business Name: U.S. House of Representative:	Business Phone: (202) 225-2261
Business Address: 2264 Rayburn HOB	Business Address (co _____
Type of Business: Government	Area of Interest: _____

Step Two Part A - Accommodation (Standard Rooms) Choose Either Standard or Suite

Please choose an accommodation package, if you choose the double occupancy option, we ask that you provide the name Beach Hotel. Please use this opportunity to make any special requests such as extra nights.

Extra Night Rate For Standard Rooms - \$180 per night based on Double Occupancy and \$265 per night based on Single Occupancy packages, please contact us directly.

Single Occupancy Packages | Standard Accommodation - Single | Rooming with... |
Double Occupancy | Standard Accommodation - Double | Rooming with... |
Sports: | Golf | Golf Shirt Size : | Small |

Step Two Part B - Accommodation (Suite Rooms - Limited Availability) Choose Either Standard or Suite

Please choose an accommodation package, if you choose the double occupancy option, we ask that you provide the name Beach Hotel. Please use this opportunity to make any special requests such as extra nights.

Extra Night Rate For Suite Rooms - \$250 per night based on Double Occupancy and \$325 per night based on Single Occupancy packages, please contact us directly.

Single Occupancy Packages | Conference Package Suite - \$1198 | Rooming with... |
Double Occupancy | Suite Accommodation - Double | Rooming with... |
Sports: | Golf | Golf Shirt Size : | Small |

109. Representative Kilpatrick told the OCE that she gave her scheduler instructions as to what type of room she wanted.⁹⁹ Representative Kilpatrick also confirmed that she stayed in a suite at the conference.¹⁰⁰

⁹⁸ 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Registration Form of Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (Exhibit 22 at 09-2567 0275).

⁹⁹ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Carolyn Kilpatrick (May 14, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-2567 0032).

¹⁰⁰ *Id.* at 09-2567 0031.

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V. More Than One Family Member Accompanied Congresswoman Kilpatrick on the Trip

110. Pursuant to the House Ethics Manual:

It is permissible for a Member, officer, or employee participating in officially connected travel paid for by a private source to be accompanied by a relative on the trip (House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(4)(D)) . . . Further, this provision allows the acceptance of expenses for only one relative. For example, a Member, officer, or employee, if offered by the sponsor, may accept expenses for a spouse or one child only, not a spouse and a child. The travel expenses paid for a relative must be specified by the private source and traveler on the pre-travel forms and reported on travel disclosure forms in the same manner as those paid for the Member, officer, or employee.¹⁰¹

111. Documents obtained from Mr. Rodney indicate that Congresswoman Kilpatrick brought her daughter and infant granddaughter with her as “accompanying relatives.”¹⁰²

From: "Bragg, Andrea" <Andrea.Bragg@mail.house.gov>
To: <carlb-desk@att.net>
Subject: FW: Room Information
Date: Friday, October 31, 2008 12:14:51 PM

Patricia, Ayanna Kilpatrick will be staying with Congresswoman Kilpatrick along with Annaya Ferguson (7-months-old). Please add a crib to the room. The travel dates are Thursday, November 6 thru Sunday, November 9. Thank you.

Andrea Bragg
Executive Assistant/Scheduler
for Congresswoman Carolyn Kilpatrick
1274 Library Suite 1B
Detroit, Michigan 48226
(313) 965-9004 (office)
(313) 965-9006 (fax)

112. This fact was not disclosed on her pre- or post-travel disclosure forms. On these forms Congresswoman Kilpatrick listed her sister as her accompanying relative.¹⁰³

113. Congresswoman Kilpatrick confirmed in an interview with the OCE that in fact she brought her daughter and granddaughter.¹⁰⁴

¹⁰¹ House Ethics Manual (2008) at 101.

¹⁰² E-mail from Andrea Bragg to Patricia Louis (Oct. 31, 2008 12:14 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2567 0277.1).

¹⁰³ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (Nov. 20, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2567 0002).

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114. By bringing her daughter and granddaughter to the conference, there is substantial reason to believe that Congresswoman Kilpatrick violated the limitation that a Member may only bring one family member with them on privately sponsored travel.¹⁰⁵

VI. Carib News Foundation, as a Private Foundation, Was Prohibited From Paying for Congresswoman Kilpatrick's Travel

115. The Carib News Foundation is identified as the "sponsor" of this conference on at least three forms filed with the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct: (1) the "Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form,"; (2) the "Privately Sponsored Travel: Travel Form," and; (3) the "Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form."¹⁰⁶

116. According to a query of the New York State's Office of the Secretary of State, Mr. Rodney appears to operate two organizations – the "Carib News, Inc" which operates a newspaper and the "Carib News Charities, Inc" which also may operate under the name "Carib News Foundation." The OCE has not been able to identify any additional activity, other than the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, in which the latter organization is involved. Furthermore, while "Carib News Charities, Inc" / "Carib News Foundation" is listed with New York's Office of the Secretary of State as a domestic not-for-profit corporation, it is not listed, as required by law, with the New York State Charities Bureau. In addition, there is no evidence that the organization has filed a tax return with the IRS, under either name, since 2005.¹⁰⁷ According to Publication 78 of the IRS, a list of all charities claiming 501(c) status, Carib Charities, Inc is a private foundation.¹⁰⁸

117. Every organization that qualifies for tax exemption described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code is defined as a private foundation unless the organization falls into one of the categories specifically excluded from the definition under section 509(a).¹⁰⁹ In effect, the definition divides 501(c)(3) organizations into two classes: private foundations and public charities. Private foundations are generally funded through a single donor, family or corporation and operate through investment income;

¹⁰⁴ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Carolyn Kilpatrick (May 14, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-2567 0031).

¹⁰⁵ House Ethics Manual (2008) at 101.

¹⁰⁶ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (Nov. 20, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2567 0002).

¹⁰⁷ Letter from IRS to OCE (Apr. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 8 at 09-2567 0106-0118.2).

¹⁰⁸ Online Version of Publication 78 (Accessed online on June 5, 2009 at <http://www.irs.gov/app/pub-78/>) (Exhibit 8 at 09-2567 0118.1-0118.2).

¹⁰⁹ 26 U.S.C. §§ 501 and 509.

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whereas, public charities are typically funded and operated through diversified support from governmental sources and the general public.

118. There are several restrictions that are placed on private foundations. At issue here is the restriction on "self-dealing" between a disqualified person (the definition of which includes Members of Congress) and a private foundation.¹¹⁰ The Code defines the act of "self-dealing" to include any direct or indirect agreement to make any payment of money (including reimbursement of expenses) or other property by a private foundation to a government official.¹¹¹ Although framed as a tax provision, the statute essentially bars certain federal employees and federally elected officials from receiving compensation, including reimbursements for international travel, from a private foundation.¹¹²
119. As such, it appears that the Carib News Foundation's payment of travel expenses for Representative Kilpatrick and her acceptance of payment potentially violated the Internal Revenue Code.
120. The Board infers from the fact that the Standards Committee approved the reimbursement that the Standards Committee is unaware of this restriction. The Board notes, however, that its own research revealed that numerous other ethics-related entities in the federal government are aware of this restriction, and have for some time been enforcing it.¹¹³
121. Congresswoman Kilpatrick told the OCE that she was unaware of any limitations on the ability of private foundations to pay for overseas travel by government officials.¹¹⁴
122. The Board notes that these facts show failures at multiple points by multiple parties in complying with and enforcing the travel rules. Inaccurate information was provided by the Carib News Foundation to Members and the Standards Committee. Congresswoman Kilpatrick certified inaccurate information to the Standards Committee and failed to disclose the number of family members accompanying her. The counsel to the former Chair of the Standards Committee intervened in the review process in a way that both frustrated the process in 2007 and set a pattern of obfuscation that continued in 2008.

¹¹⁰ 26 U.S.C. §§ 4941 and 4946.

¹¹¹ 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(1)(F). The Code imposes a tax (currently 10 percent of the amount involved) on the illegal payments, with later penalties (up to \$20,000 per act of self-dealing) for failure to pay back the foundation. The tax is imposed on the disqualified person, including a government official if the official participates in the act of self-dealing knowingly.

¹¹² The payment or reimbursement of travel expenses for travel solely from one point in the United States to another point in the United States is excepted from the definition of self-dealing provided that the payment or reimbursement does not exceed the actual cost of the transportation involved and provided the amount for all other traveling expenses does not exceed 125 percent of the maximum amount payable under section 5702 of title 5, United States Code, for like travel by employees of the United States. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(2)(G)(vii).

¹¹³ Memorandum from Ethics Counsel at the National Institutes of Health to Deputy Ethics Counsels at NIH (Jun. 2, 2000) (Exhibit 25 at 09-2567 0279-0281).

¹¹⁴ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Carolyn Kilpatrick (May 14, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-2567 0031).

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Finally, the Standards Committee appears unaware of limitations on the ability of private foundations to pay for overseas travel by Members.

123. For all these reasons, the Board concludes further review of this matter by the Standards Committee is appropriate.

Exhibit 1

HAND DELIVERED

Original Amendment

U.S. House of Representatives
110th Congress

NOV 20 PM 1:56

MEMBER / OFFICER
POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties. You need not disclose government-funded or political travel on this form, or travel that is unrelated to official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report all privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual Financial Disclosure Statement. In accordance with clause 5 of House Rule 25, complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, B-106 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed. The Clerk is to make these forms available to the public as soon as possible after they are received.

1. Name of Traveler: Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick
2. a. Name of Accompanying Family Member (if any): Marsha Cheeks
b. Relationship to Member/Officer: Spouse Child Other (specify): Sister
3. a. Date of Departure and Date of Return: Depart - Nov 6, 2008, Return - Nov 9, 2008
b. Dates at personal expense (if any): NONE
4. Itinerary (cities of departure -- destination -- return): - Attached -
5. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): Carib News Foundation
6. Describe meetings and events attended (attach additional pages if necessary): I participated in a Business Conference to give appropriate Congressional and current legislative perspective on the topic of discussion "U.S. - Caribbean relations."
7. Attached to this form are EACH of the following (signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box):
 - a. the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form completed by trip sponsor, including all attachments;
 - b. the Traveler Form completed by the Member or officer; and
 - c. the Committee on Standards' letter approving my participation on this trip.
8. a. I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the sponsor's agenda (Signify that statement is true by checking box):
b. If not, explain:

09-2567 0002

9. TRIP EXPENSES: Obtain actual dollar amounts from the sponsor. If exact dollar amounts are unavailable by the due date, provide a good faith estimate and file an amended form once the correct amounts are received.

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses
For Member or Officer:	\$410.00	\$405.00	
For accompanying family member:	\$410.00	\$405.00	

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Specific Nature of Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For Member or Officer:	\$175.00	Registration Fee
For accompanying family member:	\$175.00	Registration Fee

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER:

Charles C. Telpatrub

DATE: Nov. 19, 2008

Version 1.0, 9/2007, U.S. Committee on Standards of Official Conduct



Carib News Foundation

New York, NY 10018

7 West 36th Street, 8th

Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax:

14 2089

E-mail:

info@caribnewsconference.com

TO : Congressman Charles Rangel
Congresswoman Donna Christensen
Congressman Bennie Thompson
Congressman Donald Payne
Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick

FROM : Karl B. Rodney

DATE : November 18, 2008

SUBJECT : Business Conference Travel Information

The following is the breakdown of the value for the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference held in St. Maarten, N.A. from November 6-9, 2008.

Airfare	-	\$410.00
Hotel	-	\$405.00
Registration/	-	\$175.00
Transportation		

Total amount of package = \$990.00

Karl B. Rodney

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C-3 corporation

Scott, Roxanne

From: carib-desk@att.net
Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2008 3:37 PM
To: carib-desk@att.net
Subject: Post-Travel information
Attachments: Disclosure information for Business Conference 2008.doc

Please disregard previous e-mail.

Attached is information for the post-travel disclosure form, with regard to the 2008 Business Conference held in St. Maarten, November 6-9, 2008.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
NY Carib News
Ph: (212) 944-1991
Fax: (212) 944-2089

11/19/2008

09-2567 0006

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Washington, DC 20515

October 21, 2008

The Honorable Carolyn C. Kilpatrick
U.S. House of Representatives
2264 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct hereby approves your proposed trip for you and your sister to St. Maarten, N.A. scheduled for November 6 to 9, 2008 sponsored by the Carib News Foundation.

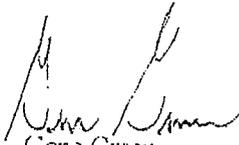
You must complete a Member Travel Disclosure Form and file it with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are required to attach a copy of this letter and the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form, including attachments. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$335 from a single source on Schedule VII of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act, gifts "of minimal value [currently \$335] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of \$335 received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

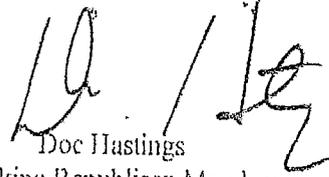
However, we would note that since this trip is scheduled to commence after the general election on November 4, 2008 and because officially-connected travel must be related to official duties, it may be questionable whether a Member who was not reelected in the general election should to accept an invitation for a trip that is fact-finding in nature. Arguably, as of that time, the official responsibilities that may justify the acceptance of travel expenses for such a purpose will have come to an end. This consideration generally will not limit the Committee's authority to approve travel of a departing Member to participate substantially in an officially-related event (for example, to give a speech). Please keep this guidance in mind, as you may need to reevaluate your ability to participate in the trip following the election.

The Honorable Carolyn C. Kilpatrick
October 21, 2008
Page 2

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.


Gene Green
Acting Chairman

Sincerely,


Doc Hastings
Ranking Republican Member

GG/DH:pgp



Government of Sint Maarten

Sarah Wescot-Williams, M.Sc.

Telephone:
(599) 543-1166

Fax:
(599) 542-4292

E-mail:
cominf@sintmaarten.nl

St. Maarten, August 28, 2008

Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
U.S. House of Representatives
1610 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2261
Fax: 202-225-5730

RECEIVED

SEP 19 2008

Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
Congressional Office

Honorable Congresswoman Kilpatrick,

The well-known Carib News Foundation has once more chosen our island, St. Maarten, as venue for its 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference scheduled to be held from November 6 – 9, 2008 at the Sonesta Maho Beach Resort & Casino. The conference is being held under the theme: "A Region in Transition Strategy for Change, Alliance for Progress".

We are thrilled to host this very important and prestigious conference and it is my distinct pleasure, on behalf of the government and people of St. Maarten, to invite you personally to be part of this gathering which we hope would, as its theme suggests, map out a strategy for change and a reinvigorated alliance for progress during this period of obvious transition in U.S. Caribbean relations.

St. Maarten, widely known as The Friendly Island, is not a typical sun-sea-and-sand destination in the Caribbean, but perhaps the most unique and cosmopolitan island in the region, given its size and its rich cultural diversity.

Considered the "culinary capital of the Caribbean," St. Maarten was ranked third in the world and first in the Caribbean in this year's inaugural TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice Destinations Awards. It is an honor that we cherish very much since the choice was made among millions of "real travelers" who know the vacation destinations the best.

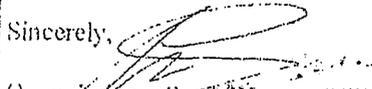
The Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference offers you a fine opportunity to combine business with pleasure on our island with a wide variety of activities, a pulsating nightlife, absolutely duty-free shopping, and 37 beautiful beaches to choose from.

Similarly, our vibrant investment climate offers numerous opportunities for investors in an atmosphere of peace and stability.

I am personally looking forward to welcoming you to our island, and assure you that we will do everything within our power to make your stay a very memorable and pleasant experience.

May I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem.

Sincerely,


Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams,
Leader of Government.

Mailing Address: Government Administration Building • Clem La Bega Square • Philipsburg • St. Maarten • Netherlands Antilles

09-2567 0009

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL: TRAVELER FORM
For Members, Officers, and Employees

This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection. *Please type form. Form (and any attachments) may be faxed to the Committee at (202) 225-7392.*

YOUR COMPLETED REQUEST MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE COMMITTEE NO LESS THAN 14 DAYS BEFORE YOUR PROPOSED DEPARTURE DATE. Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 14 days before the trip commences.

Name of Traveler: *Congresswoman Carolyn C. Kilpatrick*

I certify that the information contained on both pages of this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: *Carolyn C. Kilpatrick*

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler):

For staff, name of employing Member-Committee:

Office address: *2264 Rayburn House Office Building*

Phone number: *(202) 225-2261*

Email address of contact person: *ckkilpatrick@mail.house.gov*

Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet and the traveler is a Member traveling to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity and these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 14 days before the trip departure date.

NOTE: You must complete the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. House of Representatives
111-2, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-7103 (phone)
(202) 225-7392 (fax)

Revised 10/9/2009 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL: TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Congresswoman Carolyn C. Kilpatrick
2. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): Carib News Foundation
3. Travel destination(s): St. Maarten, NA
4. a. Date of Departure and Date of Return: Depart - November 6, 2008, Return November 9, 2008
b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense? Yes No
If yes, dates at personal expense:
5. a. Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? Yes No
b. If yes, name of accompanying family member:
c. Relationship to traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify):
6. a. Did the trip sponsor answer "yes" to Question 9(c) on the Trip Sponsor form (i.e., the travel is being sponsored by an entity that employs a lobbyist)? Yes No
b. If yes, check one of the following: N/A Sponsor checked 9(a) or 9(b)
(1) Approval for one-night's lodging and meals is being requested: or
(2) Approval for two-nights' lodging and meals is being requested:
If "(2)" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted:
7. Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments (indicate that form is attached by checking box):

8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to your individual official or representational duties:

I will participate in a Business Conference to give appropriate Congressional and current legislative perspective on the topic of discussion

9. FOR STAFF:

"U.S. - Caribbean relations"

TO BE COMPLETED BY YOUR EMPLOYING MEMBER:

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Date:

Signature of Employing Member

NOTE: This page must be submitted with your post-travel disclosure form within 15 days of your return, so you should maintain a photocopy of the completed form for your records.

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): BASED ON COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE WHICH IMPACTS US/CARIBBEAN RELATIONS ON WHICH THE MEMBER SERVES.
6. Dates of travel: NOVEMBER 6-9, 2006
7. Cities of departure - destination - return: VARIES - DEPENDING ON MEMBER
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following.
 - a. One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered:If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:
CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (SEE ATTACHED)

13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip:
THE INTEREST OF CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION IS TO PROMOTE, INFORM, TRADE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE U.S AND THE CARIBBEAN

14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted:
REGULAR SCHEDULED AIR SERVICE, ECONOMY CLASS

15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):

16. I represent that either (check one of the following):
a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: *or*
b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation.

If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____

17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: SEE ATTACHED

18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: SONESTA MAHO BEACH RESORT

19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$110.00

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: HAS APPROPRIATE MEETING ROOMS

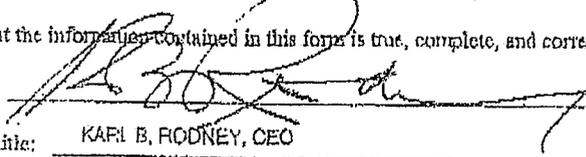
21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	410	280	145
For each accompanying family member	410	0	145

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$150 \$ 25	Conference Registration Local transportation
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
 Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO
 Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
 Address: 7 WEST 36th STREET, 6th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018
 Telephone number: (212) 944-1991
 Fax number: (212) 944-2089
 Email Address: CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
 U.S. House of Representatives
 HT-2, The Capitol
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)
 (202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date: 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INVITED TO THE
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS
CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 6-9, 2008, ST. MAARTEN, N.A.

Congresswoman Diane E. Watson
Congressman David Scott
Congressman James Clyburn
Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez
Congressman Charles Rangel
Congressman Donald Payne
Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
Congressman Edolphus Towns
Congressman G. K. Butterfield
Congressman Gregory Meeks
Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.
Congressman Keith Ellison
Congressman Kendrick Meek
Congresswoman Maxine Waters
Congressman Melvin Watt
Congressman Robert Scott
Congressman William Lacy Clay
Congresswoman Barbara Lee
Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
Congresswoman Corrine Brown
Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
Congressman Danny Davis
Congressman Bennie Thompson

July 2008



Carib News Foundation

7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017

Tel: (212) 944-1999; Fax: (212) 944-2089

Email: info@caribnewsconference.com

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Item #17

A Caribbean country whose proximity to other Caribbean Countries makes it conveniently located for delegates from the other Caribbean countries to attend.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

Working Copy

13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
St. Maarten, N.A.

THEME: **A REGION IN TRANSITION - STRATEGY FOR
CHANGE - BUILDING ALLIANCES**

Thursday, November 6, 2008

12:00noon - 6:00pm : **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -**

5:00 - 6:30 - **TOWN HALL FORUM - HEALTH**

Innovative Solutions for Life styles
Diseases- a Collaborative Approach - Diabetes,
Hypertension, Obesity, Oral Health

Speakers - Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister, St. Kitts and Nevis
Mrs. Karen Boykin-Towne
Hon Diane Watson, Member of US Congress
Health Commissioner, St. Maarten
Hon. Jesse Jackson Jr., Member of US Congress

6:30- 7:30pm - **OPENING RECEPTION**

Venue: - **POOLSIDE**

Theme: - **A REGION IN TRANSITION -**

Speakers: - **Faye A. Rodney**

Hon. Roy Marlin - Commissioner for Tourism & Finance - St
Maarten.

Hon. Yvette Clarke, Member of Congress

MC: - Sabrina Hosang - Royal Caribbean Bakery

7:30 - 9:30 pm - OPENING DINNER

Venue: - Main Ballroom

Theme: - *STRATEGY FOR CHANGE*

Greetings:

Speakers: - Dame Billie Miller

Hon. Donald Payne, Member US Congress

Hon. Nick Perry, New York State Assembly

Hon. G.K. Butterfield, Member of Congress

10:00pm - 1:00am: - HOSPITALITY AREA

Friday, November 7, 2008

8:00am - 8:45am - (BREAKFAST)

9:00am - 6:00pm CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

9:00am - 10:15am - OPENING CEREMONIES

Venue: - Main Ballroom

Theme: - *BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR PROGRESS*

Invocation: - Rev. Susan Johnson=Cook

Anthems: - St. Maarten
Lift Every Voice

Remarks: - Eric Eve
Karen Boykin-Towns
Marie Long
Ed Goldberg
Patrick Gaston
Hazel Dukes

Speakers: - Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member
US Congress
Hon. Melvin Watt, Member of US Congress
Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader
of Government, St. Maarten

Keynote Speaker - Hon. Charles Rangel -Member US Congress

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONIES

10:15am - 10:30am - COFFEE BREAK -

10:30am -11:45am PRESENTATION

Theme: " Health – an Economic development Strategy
For the Region"

Speakers: - Hon. Donna Christensen, Member US Congress
Hon. Barbara Lee, Member US Congress
Dr. Carl Kenel-Pierre, Preferred Health Partners
Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister St.Kitts/Nevis
Hon. Yvonne Graham

10:30 – 11.45 - **PRESENTATION**

Theme - "Access to Capital – Creative and unique
Financial packages "

Speakers - Michele Chow Tai, HSBC Bank
Hon. Adolfo Carrion, Bronx Borough President
William Lacy Clay, Member of US Congress
Hon. Compton Bourne, President, CDB
Commissioner of Finance, St. Maarten
Hon. Keith Ellison, Member US Congress

12:00noon – 1:15pm - **PRESENTATION**

Theme: - **TRAVEL & TOURISM –**
Need for a Competitive Transportation Network
Emerging Tourism Market
Health Tourism

- Greeting:** - Dale Morris
- Speakers:** - Hon. Gregory Meeks, Member of US Congress
 - Hon. Allan Chastanet, Minister of Tourism, St. Lucia
 - Hon. Roy Marlin, Commissioner of Tourism, St. Maarten
 - Hon. Bennie Thompson, Member of US Congress

12:00noon -1:15pm

PRESENTATION

- Theme** - Technological Innovation – A Path to Economic Development
- Moderator** - Colin Ward
- Speakers** - Hon. Edolphus Towns, Member of US Congress
 - Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson, Member US Congress
 - Commissioner of Technology, St. Maarten

1:30pm – 2:30pm

- LUNCHEON

- Venue:** - Main Ballroom
- Theme:** - **BUILDING A WINNING STRATEGY - PARTNERSHIPS THAT WORK**
- Speakers:** - Hon. Nick Perry, NYS Assembly
 - Eric Ebe
 - Hon. Jesse Jackson, Member US Congress
- Keynote Speaker** - Hon. David Paterson, Governor New York State

3:00pm - 4:00pm

Round Table #1

- NEXT GENERATION -
Business Retention and Expansion

Speakers

- Sabrina HoSang
Lita Balram
Karlisa Rodney
Hon. Yvette Clarke, Member of US Congress
Hon. Kendrick Meek, Member of US Congress

Round Table #2 -

- LOCAL BUSINESS INITIATIVES -
Opportunities with US Companies

Speakers :

- Ed Goldberg
Eric Eve
Cheryl Monroe
Albert Brown
Member of Congress

Round Table #3

- HEALTH -
QUALITY HEALTH CARE
HIV/AIDS Programs in the Region

4:30pm - 6:00pm

TOWN HALL FORUM - EDUCATION

Speakers:

Dr. Edison O. Jackson

Dr. Marcia Keizs

Patrick Gaston

Hon. Sarah Wescot-Williams, Commissioner of Education, St. Maarten

Hon. Danny Davis, Member of US Congress

Professor Rex Nettleford, UWI

Venue:

6:30:00pm - 7:30pm - *HOST COUNTRY EVENING*

Venue:

Theme

MC:

Speakers:

7:30 - 8:00 pm:

8:00pm - 10:30 pm.

CULTURAL PRESENTATION

Venue :

Theme

Speakers:

Hon. David Scott, Member of US Congress

10:00pm - 1:00am

HOSPITALITY AREA

Venue:

Saturday, November 8, 2008

8:00am - 10:00am

- **WOMEN'S BREAKFAST**

WOMEN OF INFLUENCE AND POWER

Venue:

- **Main Ballroom**

Moderator

- **Marilyn Johnson**

Speakers:

- **Hon. Maxine Waters, Member US Congress**

Hon. Sheila Jackson-Lee, Member US Congress

Hon. Barbara Lee, Member US Congress

Brenda Scott

Hon. Sarah Wescot-Williams

Rev. Dr. Susan Johnson-Cook

10:15am - 11:45am

- **PRESENTATION - EDUCATION**

A Collaboration with US Institution *Thinkfinity*

UWI/Medgar Evers College Initiatives

Speakers:

Dr. Edison Jackson

Patrick Gaston

Hon. Yvette Clarke, Member US Congress

Hon. Danny Davis, Member of Congress

10:15am - 11:45am

- PRESENTATION - AGRICULTURE

A New Emphasis in the Region - Can it Survive
Globalization.

Chair & Greetings:

Speakers:

Hon. David Scott, Member US Congress

Hon. Gregory Meeks, Member US Congress

11:00am - 1:00pm

All Members of Congress are requested to attend

Closed Door Meeting with Prime Ministers,

Ministers of Government of the Caribbean,

Commissioners, to review US/Caribbean Relations

12:00noon - 1:15pm

- PRESENTATION - CREATIVE FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS

TRADE & INVESTMENT

Retooling for Growth

Community Capitalism

Speakers:

- Hon. Maxine Waters, Member US Congress

Panelists:

12:00 noon - 1:15pm

- PRESENTATION

Theme

Hemispheric Security - Ports/Airports -
Crime - Drugs - Disaster

9

Speakers

- Hon. Bennie Thompson, Member of US Congress
- Theo Heyliger - Commissioner of Ports, St. Maarten
- Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member US Congress
- Hon. Lance Ogiste, Brooklyn District Attorney
- Dr. Basil Wilson
- Hon. Keith Ellison, Member of US Congress

1:30pm - 2:30 pm

LUNCHEON

Theme:

CARIBBEAN - A SOLID INVESTMENT

Speakers

- Hon. Charles Rangel, Member of US Congress
- Hon. William Thompson, NYC Comptroller
- Dr. Compton Bourne, President CDB
- Dr Enrique Riggs
- Javier Evans

Round Table #1

- **EDUCATION**

Speakers

- Hon. Danny Davis, Member of US Congress
- Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson, Member US Congress

Round Table#2: - *IMMIGRATION*
Hon. Sheila Jackson-Lee, Member of US Congress
Dr. Marco Mason

Round Table#3: - *HAITI - HOPE II - Diaspora Initiatives*
Hon. Charles Rangel, Member of US Congress
Hon. Kendrick Meek, Member of US Congress

Round Table# 4 - *MICRO FINANCING - CONFERENCE GENERATED*
Laura Blackburne
Hon. Keith Ellison, Member of US Congress
Lucille McEwen
Michael Flanigan

4:30 pm - 6:00pm - *TOWN HALL FORUM - TECHNOLOGY*

Venue:

Speakers - Marie Long
Marilyn Johnson
Colin Ward
Al Brown

Hon. Corrine Brown, Member of Congress
Hon. James Clyburn, Member of Congress
Commissioner on Technology

6:30 - 7:30pm - GALA RECEPTION

Speakers - Hon. James Clyburn, Member of US. Congress

7:30pm - 10:00pm - GALA DINNER & AWARDS PRESENTATION

Speaker - Hon. Charles Rangel, Member of US Congress
Hon. Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Government
Business

AWARDS PRESENTATION

ENTERTAINMENT

10:30pm - 1:00am - HOSPITALITY AREA

Venue:

Sunday, November 9, 2008

8:30 am - 10:00am - POWER BREAKFAST

Theme:

- ***SPIRITUALITY - THE BASICS IN BUSINESS***

Speakers

- **Rev. Susan Johnson Cook**

Ed Goldberg

Lowell Hawthorne

Selection:

- **Local Choir**

September 30, 2008

Exhibit 2

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative Carolyn Kilpatrick
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: May 14, 2009
Location: Rayburn HOB 264
Time: 12:15pm to 1:00 p.m. (approximately)
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: Representative Carolyn Kilpatrick is a Member of the United States House of Representatives and represents the Thirteenth District of Michigan. She was interviewed pursuant to Review 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. We requested an interview with Representative Kilpatrick and she consented to an interview. Representative Kilpatrick made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative Kilpatrick was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. Representative Kilpatrick signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. [attached]
2. Representative Kilpatrick confirmed that she attended the November 2008 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in St. Maarten. She did not specifically recall the dates she attended, but stated that whatever dates were on the disclosure forms were the dates she travelled. While attending the conference she stayed at whatever housing was provided by the conference.
3. Representative Kilpatrick's daughter and granddaughter also travelled with the Member. Her grandchild was approximately 7-8 months old at the time and did not need a ticket to travel as she sat on her mother's lap during the flight. All three individuals stayed in the same room. Representative Kilpatrick described the room as a small suite with a bedroom and front room. She was shown a copy of the online registration form used to

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended.

make her reservation. [attached] She stated that she may have seen the form before, but if she had not seen it then she would have told the staff what she wanted and they would have made her travel and lodging plans accordingly.

4. Representative Kilpatrick was invited to the conference by the Carib News Foundation. She has known Karl and Faye Rodney for about 6-8 years and receives a subscription to the Carib News newspaper. As a member of the Foreign Operations Committee she is interested in going to the conference. Attending the conference is also one of the best ways to get to know other Members of Congress. Representative Kilpatrick has attended the conference at least 3 or 4 times previously. Each year, Representative Kilpatrick looks for the invitation to the conference.
5. Other than at the annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conferences, the Member does not generally have contact with the Rodneys. However, a few months ago she saw Mrs. Faye Rodney at a meeting of the National Newspaper Association.
6. While at the November 2008 conference, Representative Kilpatrick attended a number of workshops and most of the sessions. She specifically recalled the session on health and the fact that Delegate Christensen participated in that session. There was one evening when she did not attend the conference and instead spent it with her grandchild, but otherwise she attended most of the conference.
7. Representative Kilpatrick attended the opening ceremonies and was invited to make remarks. The Member assumed that she was invited to speak because she was the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus at the time. Typically if the chairperson of the caucus does not speak, then the senior Member of Congress attending the conference offers remarks at the opening ceremony.
8. Representative Kilpatrick specifically recalled the greeting from Michael Flannigan because she was impressed by him.
9. Regarding the closed door session with Members of Congress, Representative Kilpatrick did not remember what was discussed. She stated that it was between 1-2 hours long and was just between the Members and officials in the local St. Maarten government. She presumed that the topics of the meeting were trade, partnerships, exports and imports and similar type issues as those were the kinds of topics typically discussed at such meetings.
10. When asked to explain the references to sponsors in her remarks at the opening of the conference, Representative Kilpatrick stated that she did thank the corporate entities and

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended,

used the word "sponsor," but those corporations were not actually "sponsors," but "partners." The Member stated that she used those words interchangeably.

11. When asked about the roles of the corporate entities at the conference, Representative Kilpatrick stated that they were there to interact and that their presence was more a sharing of information. To the Member, the word "sponsor" means "partner," in the same way that the Member was a partner at the conference. She stated that the conference was an exchange of information and an opportunity to build relationships. The Member did not know what the corporate entities did for the conference. She did not know if they provided money or anything else. Representative Kilpatrick remembered seeing signs at the conference with corporate logos on them.
12. When asked about specific comments made by Mr. Flannigan, Representative Kilpatrick stated that she did not remember him speaking and that she would not know him if he walked into the room. She also stated that she did not remember what Mr. Flannigan said in his remarks at the conference.
13. Representative Kilpatrick said that she may have attended the ribbon cutting ceremony at the conference, but did not remember. She was then shown a picture taken at the ribbon cutting ceremony [attached] and she identified herself in the picture. She also identified the person next to her (to the right of her in the photograph) as the Leader of Government of St. Maarten.
14. When asked about the role of the Carib News Foundation in the conference, Representative Kilpatrick stated that the foundation was the leader, presenter, and organizer of the conference. Mr. Rodney always opens the conference, but she did not remember his specific remarks at the 2008 conference or if he spoke before the Member spoke.
15. When asked about the role of the government of St. Maarten in the conference, Representative Kilpatrick stated she did not know. She stated that she probably saw the invitation letter from the Head of Government of St. Maarten, but did not remember it. She did not know if St. Maarten was identified as the host of the conference. Representative Kilpatrick was shown the invitation [attached] addressed to her from the government of St. Maarten. She stated that although her name was on it, she did not remember it. She must have seen it as it would have been in her file, but she had no recollection.

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16. The Carib News Foundation paid for her travel and her hotel. Representative Kilpatrick did not know if she had seen all the documents submitted to the Standards Committee regarding this trip, but she stated that she signs all her forms so she probably saw the documents, but she did not have any recollection of seeing them. She did see the post-travel disclosure form for the trip and she signed it. The post-travel disclosure form was shown to Representative Kilpatrick. [attached] She identified her signature. She stated that she would not have signed it if it was not accurate. When asked how she knew it was accurate, the Member stated that she knew it was accurate because "we checked the numbers" and she "would not sign it if it weren't."
17. Representative Kilpatrick stated that she ate breakfast, lunch, and dinner at the conference. She did not know how the meals were paid for.
18. Representative Kilpatrick said that she had spoken with other Members about the conference since attending it. Specifically she has spoken off and on with the other Members who attended the conference about the Office of Congressional Ethics' Review. She stated it was "our position" that the Standards Committee said it was ok and therefore it was ok. The Standards Committee was the "Bible around here" and "we treat it like the Bible." The trip was approved by the Committee and so she was not concerned by the corporate logos at the conference.
19. Representative Kilpatrick was again shown the post-travel disclosure form relating to this Review and asked if the dollar amounts for transportation were checked against the actual ticket. The Member did not know. She stated that she thought that the Standards Committee and the Carib News Foundation would do it.
20. The Member was shown a copy of the paper ticket she used to travel to the conference and confirmed that it was a copy of her ticket. She stated that she may have seen an itinerary but did not remember. It was common practice for her staff to give her an itinerary, but she had no recollection of seeing one.

I prepared this Memorandum of Interview on May 18, 2009 after interviewing Representative Kilpatrick on May 14, 2009. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with Representative Kilpatrick on May 14, 2009.

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

Exhibit 3

TRANSCRIPT OF AUDIO FILE:

11-7 AM SESSION - FIRST 30 MIN

Thank you for working with Accentance for your transcription needs. The text below represents a professional transcriptionist's understanding of the words spoken. No guarantee of complete accuracy is expressed or implied, particularly regarding spellings of names and other unfamiliar or hard-to-hear words and phrases. "(ph)" or "(sp?)" indicate phonetics or best guesses. To verify important quotes, we recommend listening to the corresponding audio. Timestamps throughout the transcript facilitate locating the desired quote, using software such as Windows Media or QuickTime players.

BEGIN TRANSCRIPT:

KARL RODNEY: ...Mike Flanigan how through the year his division has been supportive of the Mission and the Conference. And so we want to say thanks to Citi. You'll be hearing from Mike later but it's a great team to have working and great partners. We have Pfizer and a big supporter of (inaudible) aspect. Karen Boykin-Towns is not here, she has been able to in the past eight years and there's a death in her family and so she's not here to begin. Through the years work had done in the Caribbean circle in the United States and then a special touch to our work that can be done not only on the delivery of health care but overall awareness. [0:01:00.4]

And over from Macy's and its very fine team has been innovative in outreach to various locations we've gone to, finding new vendors, developing new contacts and really helping to make the conference a success by engagement of our local participants. So Ed and Brenda are tremendous supporters and we're so delighted that they're here with us.

IBM and Marilyn Johnson, Marilyn is Vice-President of Market Development, responsible for strategic marketing for Black, Asian and Hispanic, Native American and Women. Marilyn's a dynamic partner and you'll be hearing from Marilyn also. You should be alerted that between Brenda and Marilyn tomorrow is Women's sessions is going to be something to talk about. [0:02:09.5]

Marie Long is here from ATT but ATT has supported the Conference all 13 years. We started with them. They made sure that the Vision, the Mission of the Conference is supported through the many years.

We have with us Mr. Pat Gaston. Mr. Gaston is the President of Verizon Foundation, one of the largest private foundations in the United States. And Mr. Gaston has made his mark in moving that foundation to be a force in education in the United States. We are delighted he is here to be with us and to introduce a wonderful program that has been very effective in the United States (inaudible) to see if there is potential here in the Caribbean. So, Patrick, we are delighted you are here and we look forward to your presentation. [0:03:14.9]

Preferred Health and a wonderful group of doctors, Dr. Valdez, Dr. Carl Kenel-Pierre, Dr. Kernisant, a group of doctors who have a network of centers through the United States but they also see and want to have that expanded to the Caribbean and also to bring a new kind of emphasis with respect to health tourism to the Caribbean and so they're here today also.

Dale Morris from American. American has been a partner with us for several years. Dale is expected to come in later on today but we want to acknowledge American and want to say "thanks".

Lloyd Williams from the Harlem Chamber of Commerce enough of his members are around and Lloyd has been supportive of this Conference from its inception and the Chamber has always been here with us and so we want to say "thanks" to Lloyd. [0:04:20.9]

Medgar Evers College under the dynamic leadership of President Edison O. Jackson has not only brought to the Caribbean a new vision of education, a new initiative with respect to men and empowerment but also the team that you see moving around they're from Medgar through the instrumentality of President Jackson working with us to document the Conference. It will be available too for a widespread distribution afterwards. So Medgar has been a true partner in making this Conference and this Mission work. [0:05:07.0]

Turner Construction. we have had a working relationship with Rev. Hilton Smith, he has attended several conferences and now he's with his colleague John Pierce to be a partner in the Mission of the Conference.

And, of course, the government of St. Maarten's under the dynamic leadership of leader Sarah Westcott-Williams and her dynamic team. We have always been working with - we always work with the leader and her dynamic group and we are just delighted at her own creative vision, her own determination and dynamic way of dealing with the Mission and dealing with the situation at hand. And we met with Commissioner Westcott-Williams and her team and she had a vision to suggest the theme of the Conference, time of transition, stretching for change and building the land session. So it was with that kind of background that we're here and to St. Maarten's we say, "Thank you very, very much." [0:06:31.4]

We have so many great partners that we shall hear from throughout the morning. We have through the Conventional Black Caucus and their members a set of agendas that have been accomplished, policies that have been achieved and programs that have been enhanced. And through the years they have been very effective when they have attended the Conferences our own (inaudible).

It was here at St. Maarten's six years ago that a group of hoteliers and vendors approached the members of our caucus to suggest that the Caribbean had been treated unfairly with respect to the duty-free allowance going into the United States. And it was within six months that it was changed through the effort of the members of the Black Caucus and so the Caribbean is better. And the Caribbean has benefited through millions of dollars of duty-free items that you know come through to the Caribbean.

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It was also here in St. Maarten's that the issue of tax exemption for conferences held in the Caribbean was again brought to the attention of the members of the Congressional Black Caucus and again that was achieved within a year. [0:08:08.2]

And so we've seen that kind of work constantly throw it's really the conference. So we can try to serve real achievement in fact in this room there is a couple that came from Denver to Barbados for their first Conference and they have built a region wide distribution for ice cream and fast food. And this has grown considerably.

It was also through the Conference that a small technology company with the value of \$2 million came, got a contract and that company in two years became a \$12 million company. And we've seen that kind of connection throughout the Conference. We could point to Barbados where technology was enhanced with respect to ATT work with the local Barbadian telecommunication company. St. Croix the fiber optics center, Grenada an oil refinery, all coming up with the expertise of the Conference to the (inaudible). [0:09:30.7]

And so the Mission is there to continue, the Mission is there to enhance, the Mission is there for us to make it work particularly now when we see the change has come and we can now come together to pad the agenda and to look forward to this kind of strategy for change. And so we want to welcome you. We promise that our sessions are going to be interesting. We have some of the best speakers that you can find on the various topics. We're going to see more when we get together the support we can bring to each other. The support we can provide with respect to the met work and certainly when we go back in the Caribbean we can really see results. We can come together as a people. You've been a great Conference. Thanks so much for being here. God bless. [0:10:28.4]

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you Mr. Rodney and we also thank you Mrs. Rodney as well. With interest we're here on the wave of the man who campaigned about change and on this transition to change and also strategic alliances. And we hope that will happen for you while you're here. Mr. Vide mentioned all of the sponsors who were with us and the partners who helped to make this happen and we're going to hear from three of them at this time at this quarter, Michael Flanigan from Citibank (Citi) and Ed Goldberg, Senior Vice-President at Macy's and Community for the Relations, and Patrick Gaston the President of the Verizon Foundation. In that order we will receive them this morning as they come, please. (clapping) [0:11:15.6]

MICHAEL FLANIGAN: Good morning.

ALL: Good morning.

MICHAEL FLANIGAN: It's really a pleasure to be here. As you heard before, Eric is on his way so I have the great privilege and honor of putting in for Eric. But first just wanted to say "thank you" and again welcome to the 13th Annual Caribbean Business Conference. This year was significant for Citi. For the first time we are the lead sponsor of this premier event. But I would be remiss in not thanking the organizers and our hosts here at St. Maarten so to the

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government, to the Commissioner Sarah Westcott-Williams, Governor Franklin Richards and Commissioner Roy Marlin and all the other elected officials here in St. Maarten and elected Congress members, appointed officials from the United States it's a pleasure to be here with you. [0:12:15.6]

We also of course have to thank the Rodney's as being 13 years in ensuring that this vision is carried out and delivered all across the Caribbean and I don't call to talk about some successes but I think one of the most important success that I think that I've experienced in coming to the Conference for the last six or seven years is just reunited with his great family. It's all about developing our communities. About we're all about the same thing, I think. We're all on the same page. We're all about the same agenda. And we're all about making sure that we absolutely care about each other, yourself but we care about the broader community. So it's always a pleasure to be here. I get re-energized every time I come. And so it's - I look forward to it - so it's one conference that I will never miss.

This Conference is an important gallery that makes a tangible contribution to dialog on the issues of important to communities. From recognizing the untapped wealth for underserved communities to building property alliances so that together we can build healthy, robust, organic economies. Today and tomorrow and even into Sunday are very important to that conversation at least to building a winning strategy to succeed in these turbulent economic times. I trust that we will all take full advantage of the great minds and the leaders that we are privileged to spend time with. I know my Citi bank black (inaudible) are ready. Thank you so much for having us here at Conference. (clapping) [0:13:58.2]

ED GOLDBERG: Good morning everyone.

ALL: Good morning.

ED GOLDBERG: As Mike said it's really a pleasure to be back with family today. We look forward to this Conference very year. Obviously, we hope that there will be many, many more over the years to come. I learned something from David Dinkins several years ago when you have a whole list of dignitaries in the house, the best thing to say is, "Present, protocol observed." So, Mr. Mayor, thank you for those kind words. (laughter)

Now a week and a half ago, Macy's celebrated its 150th anniversary. (clapping) When you think about anniversaries of companies today to believe that somebody could be around in the retail industry in particular for 150 years is quite an amazing feat. I'm sure that when R. H. Macy opened his store in lower Manhattan on 14th Street on October 28, 1858, he did not have the vision that the company some day; number one would last for 150 years; or that it would employ 225,000 people; or that they would do \$27 billion a year in business; or for being in 46 of our 50 states; and also the opportunity of having a business in 64 or 65 major markets in the United States. [0:15:30.9]

But today I'm hear to talk more about the Caribbean contract. The fact that we have been supportive of Carolyn Fay and this particular venture for the number of years but more importantly the fact that we come here to look for that spark that will ignite an opportunity to

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find that next Martha Stewart; that next design; or that new product that's going to sell in our stores such as we've done with the Rwandan peace baskets and products like that. And I think it is really why our Mission is so important, it's not just a question of change, not just a question of transition but it's building those ties and looking for those opportunities. That I think will bring us closer together. [0:16:15.9]

There's no question that we all face difficult times but I believe that the Caribbean is our backdoor and the bottom line in opening for us for expansion. No, I don't think we can build 250,000 sq. ft. mall stores but Macy's has to learn in transition how do we conduct business in the Caribbean communities. And I think we're going to find that way and obviously this particular convention is one of those opportunities to do so.

You all know Brenda Scott, my wife, (laughter), Judy's back in the room sleeping so I can say that. But Brenda and I have been together for more than 20 years. We have obviously been very much involved in our communities where we do business and we still believe we have a long way to go. But our mission is being supported by a great Chairman, Terry Lundgren, and the people of Macy's, so obviously we look forward to developing these bridges and developing the relationships. And I hope that in the not too distant future, we will be talking about a Macy's store here in the Caribbean. So enjoy your convention. I hope I'll get a chance to talk to each and every one of you as the time goes by over the next couple of days. And again, thank you so much, Carolyn Fay for the great work that you do. (clapping) [0:17:32.9]

PATRICK GASTON: Good morning everyone.

ALL: Good morning.

PATRICK GASTON: Thank you, Karl, for the wonderful introduction. Thank you, Michael and Ed for these great remarks. I extend welcome from our CEO, Ivan Seidenberg, and our 225,000 employees, many of whom are from the Caribbean region including me. I want to acknowledge my colleagues and members of the public sector, members of the community, and I also, I guess, want to respect present protocol. Okay, but I have to single out a couple people, right? So thank you to the leader of government Sarah Westcott-Williams for hosting us today and the great people of St. Maarten. It's a delight to be back here. This is my eighth time in St. Maarten and I may stay. (laughter) It's wonderful. I want to acknowledge Karl Rodney for his exceptional ability to bring people together to recognize the collaborations that are important for business development. He does so with the grace that I admire and it's the first time I've had the chance to be here with you, Karl, and it's an honor to be here and a privilege so thank you for inviting me. [0:19:06.0]

I want you all to recognize Rex Nettleford. I don't know if he's in the audience still. But Rex and I have known each other for about nine years when I first joined the Foundation of the University of West Indies Board of Directors. And one of the things that attracted me to the University in addition to Karl, of course, was that Rex was the kind of leader that reflected a lot of commitment and enthusiasm about education, something that I care deeply about. And over the years has provided me with his counsel and friendship and I thank you for that, Rex. (clapping)

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You know, Verizon does not have a retail presence in the Caribbean and I hope some day we will. But we do provide global Internet networks that help to provide a lot of communications that you might experience here. So I think we're in the game and we realize the value of technology to ensure that folks have access to incubation and education. In my case at the Verizon Foundation, Karl mentioned that I head up the Verizon Foundation and our emphasis is on education. And what we're trying to do is deliver resources to teachers in the classroom that need it really badly. So we're developing contact and we're taking with our partners, we're taking that contact and making it available through our technology platforms so during the course of today in the discussions that we'll have, we'll talk about that resource. Which, by the way, is offered free of charge to teachers around this country and now around the globe, so we want to make sure that we present this resource as another thing that this community can use and use it in a way that's free. So I'm looking forward to this dialogue and am excited about this Conference and I thank you very much, Karl, for inviting us to hear quality. [0:21:06.2] (clapping)

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you very much. I loved language in school. I remember onomatopoeia and phizz and those words and oxymoron, best of times, worst of times, homonyms, the words that sounded alike with different meanings but synonyms when you said the word you could understand what it meant. It was synonymous with something. So when we say the words, "front line", "civic leader", "activist", "Miss NAACP", "world leader", "you don't want to mess with her", you know it is synonymous with Hazel Dukes and we want to hear from her, our God, mother, our community, don't you think I'm right? (clapping) Miss NAACP, Miss Leader, our dignitary, let us receive this morning, the Honorable Hazel Dukes of New York City. Are there any New Yorkers in the house? (clapping) Let's get a little noise over here. All right.

HAZEL DUKES: Good morning.

ALL: Good morning.

HAZEL DUKES: This is my 12th Conference. Missed only one because I had a broken ankle and it was just like four weeks before the Conference, not even, be on the cast. But let me say to Fay and Karl that they have been the glue without the (inaudible). They are for us 24-7. Not only just in New York City but the Islands we have attempted. The NAACP will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in New York City where it was founded July 14 through July 17. Medgar Evers, the college, the university, the (inaudible) of the city of New York, when George Blackburn and I sit and watch TV and we hear all people go over their history, people forgot that it would not have been possible if it was not for those names, Medgar names known or so many others in Alabama for Rosie, decided to sit. So Maude could stand. Maude could not have stood if Rosie hadn't of sat. Rosie was the Secretary of the NAACP, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The Colored People come in all colors, when you make your beautiful salad you just don't want all greenery in it. Even with your omelet this morning you could have a mixture, of beautiful flowers I have to have all colors. And so for a hundred years this old ship resigned, been around. Lord, I was reminiscing last night (inaudible) the people who we went to the (inaudible) of (inaudible) there was only six. We used to be at the Hilton Hotel. And we held court. When we started in Albany there was no black and Puerto Rican caucus, there was the

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ALL.: Good morning.

WILLIAM THOMPSON: It is definitely a pleasure to be back again even though following Hazel to the microphone is always an indubitable thing to do. [0:30:01.1]

END PART 1

TRANSCRIPT OF AUDIO FILE:

11-7A.M.SESSION - 30 THRU 75 MIN

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BEGIN TRANSCRIPT:

(Part 2 - beginning at 30:00 through 1:15)

WILLIAM C. THOMPSON, JR.: - It's good to be back again and let me first start out by thanking, and I always term them as I did last year and I have continued to do it over a period of time, termed them the "dynamic duo," Faye and Karl Rodney. [applause at 0:30:16.7] They happen to be, when it comes to vision - and that's exactly 13 years ago when putting this conference together, they had a vision. It is something that they have never taken a step back from. They continue to move forward they continue to bring us together. And while we have the opportunity to meet, to have conferences in some wonderful places, just fabulous environments and that is the truth, but they work us, okay. Karl and Faye let us understand that we may meet in a wonderful environment, you walk outside and it's gorgeous, but we are here to accomplish things. [0:30:58.7]

Karl mentioned when we were here before, and I remember the discussions with the members of the... and it wasn't just those who owned hotels, it was members of government who had indicated that the (inaudible) \$200 dollar duty-free or the amount that you could bring in the country hadn't changed in decades, in years and years and years. And I remember that members of the... went back to Washington and in a period of months the amount had doubled from \$200 to \$400 dollars. It was the right thing to do but you saw the power of this Congress. As I said, we might come together in wonderful places, but it is about business. It is about increasing the ties. It is about the business between the Caribbean and the United States and increasing those business opportunities, helping to raise the standard of living for many; helping to build businesses and institutions, that's what it is about. [0:32:09.3]

Last year, Karl had me down here and - no I'm sorry, last year after our conference I worked. I must admit, Karl had me as a luncheon speaker, we were outside, it was about 85 degrees and I was in a tie okay, I was in a suit and tie and it took me a couple of hours afterwards to dry out. But the one point that was made then was Karl looked at me, and those of you who know me in the

introduction as New York City's Controller, I'm a member; a trustee of four of our five pension boards, chief investment advisor to all five. Our total assets in knowing, it might have shrunk a little, but our total assets are about \$95 billion dollars right now. We are the fifth largest public pension fund in America. [applause at 0:33:02.4] At that point Karl looked at me and said, by the way how much of that is invested in the Caribbean basin? How much of that money is going to create, to build infrastructure, to help with tourism, healthcare and other things? And it was an impressive question and I went back and the answer was not much. Not much, so we started to go at that point down the path of looking at investment possibilities in the Caribbean basin; obviously a very promising area. [0:33:42.0]

To go back to quote just a couple of numbers as we would look at - now it has been a tumultuous year on Wall Street, at the same point, many of the investments, as we were termed that we have made in the emerging markets around the world, have outperformed developed markets. For instance, one year, three year, five year performance of emerging market equities has been on par or better than the United States private equity, the United States venture capital, Western European private equity and U.S. public markets. Clearly it makes sense for institutional investors to begin to move further into those waters of emerging markets. [applause at 0:34:25.8]

So we went back and started to engage, particularly we looked at private equity, and the way we invest usually isn't directly it is in private equity funds, so we began and our private equity consultant, we asked them to take an initial look at the Caribbean basin for how much initially should we be investing. And the number that they came back with was \$80 million dollars. That would be our first step into investment in the Caribbean basin through a variety of investment vehicles. We started to move down that path and unless I am wrong, and if I am I will be short a few people or I will lose a few people in my investment side, but I believe that yesterday back in the office, back in front of one of our pension boards, we approved the first application of \$30 million dollars to be invested in the Caribbean basin. [applause at 0:35:25.8] And, we are going to continue to move forward through other investment vehicles to invest and commit, or really to commit and invest, the additional \$50 million dollars and then we will take a step back and look for other possibilities. [0:35:46.8]

So I just wanted those to know that conversation, that investment of money, and as I pointed out it will range in everything from real estate to infrastructure, industries ranging from healthcare, financial services, energy, telecom, tourism and other areas, but that started last year at this conference. [applause at 0:36:09.8] So to those who say, "Jeeze you are going to St. Maarten? I have a wonderful time, I know you are going to spend a lot of time on the beach." Karl and Faye make sure that we are working hard and that we are getting things done. [0:36:28.6]

And at this conference, while it is great to see friends and colleagues and some people I don't get to see for a year, we are here working and we are here making sure that we increase and bring closer those ties that we have had in the past and that we are helping to grow business, that we are helping to improve quality of life both here in the Caribbean and back in the United States.

So again, it is a pleasure and let me say again to Karl and Faye, thank you so much for the leadership that you have shown. We look forward to your continued leadership for years to come. Thank you so much. [applause at 0:37:04.2]

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REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you for working hard while you are here and even back at home. Thank you. It is so good to be together. We do get to sit down and talk to each other here. We try to get on each other's calendars in the City and we never do, but here we are able to make and transact business and it's wonderful.

As a point of personal privilege, it is not everyday that you have a city world leader that you know very well is a man of faith first of all, who reads the Holy Scripture at your wedding. It's not everyday that you go into (inaudible) flavor at a press conference that he has called and then he comes to the hospital to see the birth of your first child. It's not everyday that you have someone who is there at the blessing of that child who's named after him. It's not everyday that you have someone who hosts Whitehouse Fellows when the run, coming to New York City and gives them the key to New York. And, it's not everyday that we have the first African American Mayor of the City of New York in our midst. We are in the midst of history here. He was the 106th Mayor for the City, but he is our number one Mayor, the Honorable Mayor David Dinkins. Professor in the Practice of Public Affairs at Columbia University [applause at 0:38:16.8], and our wonderful, wonderful leader who's shoulders we stand on and for who we cheer for in honor this day. Let's hear it for the Honorable David Dinkins. [0:38:28.4]

DAVID DINKINS: Well one thing is clear, if I had had the good fortune of having the Reverend introduce me more often I might have gotten re-elected. [laughter at 0:38:48.4] I am delighted to be here, but I want to clear one thing up from the start. I think it should be acknowledged that Faye Rodney has been such a wonderful person and to think that she permits her husband to come along with her the way he does [laughter at 0:39:10.1]. It's really nice. She even lets him think he's in charge every now and then. [laughter at 0:39:16.6] But they are a dynamic duo.

I am delighted to be here with you, I truly am and each year, I guess I've been here ten out of - at least ten times I think - and each year I try to get myself on the committee that will go and do the, make the decisions on where we are going to go next year so I can visit the islands but they have not yet let me come. But each year though, I insist that the tennis facilities be adequate, but I am not playing this time. But I want you to know my friends (inaudible) that they were out on the court this morning and I will get a report and it better be good. [laughter at 0:40:14.3]

I am delighted to be here with you, I truly am and we are taking a role and those folks who are not here now, but are still having breakfast or are out on the beach, we've got their names: [laughter at 0:40:33.0] and we are going to chastise them severely. But it really is a wonderful, wonderful opportunity to come together with friends. For me personally it gives me an opportunity to say thank you to so many of you who helped me become the 106th Mayor of New York. [0:40:51.2]

We say often that everybody stands on somebody's shoulders, and by that we mean Malcolm X and Martin Luther King and (inaudible), and Harriett Tubman and Rosa Parks and for me, for me personally, it also means Percy Ellis Sutton. [applause at 0:41:13.0] who ran in 1977 with such class and distinction that nobody laughed at me when I dared try in 1989. And we were successful and it is a broad leap. [0:41:33.6]

Certainly, I was simply privileged to be the stand bearer, but it was many of you here gathered, many of you who worked with me, worked with me in our administration like Laura and Hazel and so many of you, and I know that we wouldn't have gotten nothing done had it not been for the man called the Rumble Genius by the New York Times, Bill Lynch. [0:42:02.3]

Bill used to say, good government is good politics. And you will note on his literature, he's got a consulting firm now and a whole heap of clients and is doing very, very well, you will note that he uses that slogan and it is certainly true. If you do that which is right in the first instance, it will inure to your benefit politically as well. [0:42:34.5]

So we didn't make judgments politically and then say well let's see how that will play out, we did it the other way around. We did what we thought was right and then it inured to our political benefit and I am so proud of so many of the people who helped us succeed as they go forth now. And I can't believe how young they were, some of them are still young even now and maybe it's because I am so old that it looks that way. But it really is an example of what can happen when good people come together and work hard. [0:43:11.7]

And I know that President-elect Obama is going to do well because he is going to surround himself with bright, intelligent, trustworthy people on whom he can rely on. Because no executive, no executive, not even Ed Goldberg, can get it done alone. You've got to have help and you've got to have people to whom you can delegate and you have to have people who will make a triage. You can't look at the thousands upon thousands of things that will come before you. They have to do a triage and bring to you those that they deem to be of significance for you to make a judgment, and then you will make a decision among them. [0:44:00.6]

I am confident that President-elect Obama will make the correct decision once he knows all the options, but he can't know all of the options if they aren't brought to him in the first instance. And the reason that I have such faith that he will be surrounded by good, bright people is the kind of campaign he ran. [applause at 0:44:26.1] He ran one hell of a campaign so it sort of suggests that he will do as well as our President. That is not easily done, particularly in these difficult times, but when Alan Greenspan said, "By God I didn't know it was this bad," or, never (inaudible) how the hell he doesn't know, how am I supposed to know." So it is difficult for sure, but we are going to survive this. They say that that doesn't kill you makes you stronger, so we are going to survive this [0:45:01.0]

Ed Goldberg made reference to my custom, my habit that I got from African diplomats of instead of acknowledging everyone in the audience, which I would want to do and my staff would go absolutely crazy because I would acknowledge all of my friends and they - I did that once and my wife was standing right next to me and I acknowledged everybody in the house except her. Hell of a ride home [laughter at 0:45:29.6]. But, the African diplomats have this custom, they say, "Usual protocols observed." So, President Jackson that means that you have been acknowledged. [laughter at 0:45:45.2] See, that's the way they do it because if you do otherwise, if I go on to describe how Hazel is my assistant and how - let me tell you, you don't want Hazel against you ever, but by God if she is on your side, nothing can stop you; you will win. [applause at 0:46:12.5] And we are all going to turn out as she leaves us in celebration of NAACP's on it's anniversary it is going to be a

monster, it's going to be a gas to be right in New York and I hope everyone here comes. It is really going to be something. [0:46:34.5]

I say to audiences, the media in particular has been asking me, "Well what's it like for President-elect Obama the first African American President of the United States?" And their theory is they are asking me because I was the first black Mayor and I try to explain that there is a world of difference. While I got to be the head of a city of 8 million plus people and that's terrific, and we have more separate ethnic identities than the United Nations has member nations, so we are truly a magnificent city, but Obama is not only the President of the United States, he is the leader of the free world. So you really can't make a comparison, you can't. Although, I am sure that he's got to feel wonderful because as he said as his grandmother wasn't there at the very end, but fortunately he got to see her, imagine how the family feels, his wife, his children, so I do understand that part and it is a hell of an accomplishment that he has done, but even he could not have done it without you. And he knows that and that is the beauty of it. [0:48:02.8]

I recognize that those of us who have been privileged to serve, it is a privilege and you have to see it that way and recognize it that way and do the best that you can under the circumstances, but never, ever believe that you got there alone, because that's just not true. I am almost amused, I say almost because I feel a little sorry for the distinguished Governor of Alaska, and it's coming out now how they are swallowing in house. I don't know whether you have seen the current press and how they talk about the poor lady and she is trying to defend herself and I almost, underline almost, feel sorry for her, but, she made it up there. [0:48:54.1]

So to my friend, Suzan, the Reverend Doctor Suzan Johnson-Cook, you all - many in this audience knows that she took a congregation of about 11 or 12 people, meeting at lunchtime down near City Hall, and built it into a congregation in excess of 1,000. She did that. [applause at 0:49:25.9] She is a very, very special, gifted woman. And I say that she is here with us at this 13th annual meeting, notwithstanding the loss of her dear brother, my friend, our friend, Charles, very recently. A young man who has gone to his reward and she is with us nonetheless and we appreciate it. [0:49:59.4]

Charles was quite a guy. He didn't like to be called Charlie incidentally; he was Charles. It's sort of like if somebody says they know Joe Hines who's name is Charles J. Hines and they'll say, "Oh, I know Charlie" and you know that they don't know him worth a damn because he is Joe Hines. [0:50:24.2]

So, to be here in the company of Carolyn Kilpatrick, the Representative in the Congress who takes care of our brother Charlie Rangel; that is special. That is special. You know one year we had something like 35 members of the Congressional Black Caucus here, I think it was 35, it was over 30 certainly, and that got the attention of a whole lot of people. It got the attention I'm confident of some sponsors who said well next year maybe we ought to up ours a bit and they did and that's the genius of Paye that she let's Karl come along with her here. [laughter at 0:51:15.3]

Its true that international black heads of states have prevailed in nations with majority black populations, but never before, never, ever in the history of the United States has the Chief of State, the Commander in Chief been other than a white male. And many of us grew up in the days of Jim Crow and dozens of African Americans were still being lynched; 24 in 1933 when I was six years

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old. They were still lynching folks and as a matter of fact I can recall some years later as we started to make (we meaning blacks) started to make some progress, we were told things like, "You Negroes (that's what they called us then) you Negroes shouldn't be so pushy; they only lynched five last year." We were supposed to be grateful that so few of us had died. [0:52:15.2]

Then there came World War II; segregation, as we went off to fight and die for our country. And when I got out of the Marine Corps in 1945-1946 and some of my classmates had shrapnel in their bodies, and we could not go to the movies downtown in Washington, D.C., the Nation's Capital, couldn't shop on J Street is you had to try something on, and this is after the war; the war that ended all wars. So we have come a long way since those days, but things are not perfect even now because I maintain that we live in a racist society that is the legacy of slavery, but that does not mean that we have not made great progress. Imagine a black man, President of the United States of America. [applause at 0:53:20.2]

I can remember when there were certain jobs you couldn't even apply for, couldn't even think about it. We got the right to vote by the 15th Amendment in 1870, but we weren't able to exercise that right to vote until 1965 when the Voting Rights Act was passed. As a matter of fact, if you think back on some of the games made during the Civil Rights Days by Dr. King and so many really heroic women and men. And I have to tell you I ain't to sure that I could have followed John Lewis getting beaten down into the ground and he kept coming back. I'm not sure that I could have done that. [0:54:18.7]

I'm not sure that I could have done what the Tuskegee Airmen did. You know about the Tuskegee Airmen, everybody does, they said blacks weren't intelligent enough to learn to fly. And then B.O. Davis who in four years at West Point nobody every spoke to him, they didn't talk to him, and he came through all of that and won the fight for black men to learn to fly and then they said, well you can't go into combat because you will be cowards and turn in the face of the enemy. And then they won that battle and they did it so well that people like Roscoe Brown and Lee Archer and Percy Sutton and so many others, they fly in cover for bombers and never lost a single bomber, not one. [applause 0:55:19.1] So much so that the white bomber pilots would ask for them and I can remember, while I wasn't personally there, the black Marines who were trained in Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, white troops went to Paris Island in South Carolina and they thought that the black Marines were somehow not quite as good as the white Marines, but when the black Marines hit the beach carrying ammo for the guys that were pinned down and running out of bullets, they loved them to death. It's funny what need will do; it's funny. [0:56:16.1]

This election has at last put to rest, I think, any doubt that Americans as a whole oppose the failed economic and social policies of the Bush administration, with its record deficits and recession. Billy Thompson knows about that, Phil used to properly regulate financial industries that led to the loss of retirement pensions and the sub-prime mortgage crisis, outsourcing of American jobs, increased unemployment and refusal to work toward a living wage for job offers, failure to support programs that curtail practices that harm the environment and damage or destroy natural resources, failure to end the war in Iraq and approve any meaningful plan to withdraw troops. [0:57:12.3]

Speaking of Iraq, don't it just get you right here when the Bush people lied to Colin Powell and sent him to the United Nations to tell those lies, and didn't it make you feel good when he came out

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for Obama recently: I mean you know [applause at 0:57:38.5] by God, and he is a guy, you know, he is one of our heroes. He truly is, he truly is. [0:57:52.2]

The American people have spoken across the party lines, social classes and racial divide in support of programs to provide affordable and accessible healthcare, to stimulate economic growth and provide a living wage for American workers, to transform energy consumption and reduce American dependence on foreign oil to improve schools by ending No Child Left Behind, and end the war in Iraq and bring the troops home. Some of you will recall that when the troops came home after Vietnam, our country treated them terribly. They spit at them. They didn't ask to go, but they were treated awful. Korea was a little different. And as Charlie Rangle says, he hasn't seen a bad day since. Charlie was pinned down in a foxhole and came out of there with a Purple Heart and Bronze Star and he hasn't seen a bad day since. [0:58:57.2]

But, even though Americans, whether Democrats, Republicans or Independents, have responded overwhelmingly in support of measure that the new President may be compromised I say, at the outset by the actions of the outgoing administration. Keep in mind that he doesn't take office until January 20th and I'm counting on our friends in the Congress to do whatever they can to see to it that he doesn't start off in a whole, because that is what can happen. It is possible: I hope it doesn't happen. [0:59:41.9]

Earlier this year in February of 2008 I participated in a panel at a meeting of the Independent Newspapers International Advisory Board in Cape Town, South Africa on the topic "End of the Bush Era in the United States." And our discussion, neither prophetic or profound, merely reflected the ground swell for change that has this week resulted in one of the most historic moments in American history: the landslide election of the first African American to the Presidency of the United States of America. [1:00:20.7]

The majority of the American public, irrespective of political party affiliation welcomes the end of the Bush administration, by whatever measure we choose to evaluate its impact, domestic and global, this has been a failed presidency that has brought the United States to the brink of disaster and some say beyond the brink. We could recite the long list of offenses perpetrated or orchestrated by that administration that have passed in the name of foreign policy and global economy. [1:00:57.0]

While the United States has now emerged from unprecedented two-year campaigns, some like the New York Times editorial staff have cautioned that we should pay close attention to the efforts underway to perpetrate the policies of the past seven years with Bush. And at the risk of putting a damper on the celebration of Tuesday's victory, I do feel compelled to call attention to a few of the concerns that lay immediately ahead. [1:01:31.7]

True the Congress has a Democratic majority and the political capital of the sitting administration has been all but spent by the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the worst economy since the Great Depression, but even with the lowest approval rating of any president in the history of our country, he has pressed on to do everything possible within his remaining days to compromise the new president, who will take office with the greatest mandate from the people in a century. [1:02:05.6]

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He has abused the political process more than any of his predecessors, undermining the power of Congress through the use of Signing Statements. Over the last seven years he has issued hundreds of these documents, devices showing us that he had no intention of obeying laws, that he has claimed impinged on the constitutional powers of the Chief Executive. Examples of such Signing Statements are those that authorize domestic surveillance without warrants, torture of prisoners in violation of the Geneva Convention, and firing U.S. Attorneys for political reasons. [1:02:50.5]

Others include a host of executive actions designed to impede congressional programs to expand health insurance and prevent further pollution of the environment. The disastrous Bush Lame Duck Budget proposal announced at his last State of the Union Address contained provisions for permanent tax cuts for the wealthy and the highest level of military spending since World War II and reductions in spending for medical research, environmental protection and education. [1:03:26.9]

President Obama will have to contend with this and a series of other eleventh hour measures. We are confident that Congress will reach across the aisle to combat the resultant stranglehold from President Obama's ability and move forward our country. We have along way to go in repairing the damage done over the past seven years. And although we deserve to relish the moment of victory, we do understand that we have more battles to fight and miles to go before we sleep. [1:04:00.1]

We should congratulate those other political leaders, some of whom are with us here today in St. Maarten, for their election and reelection victories as well. [applause at 1:04:11.2] And as one of these, the Dean of the New York City Delegation of Democrats, my brother Charlie Rangle. And this is a quote from my brother, Charlie says, "The world we look at is a world of many colors, many cultures, many faiths and what we as Americans have to offer is our experience in creating a diverse society as we show the world all of the diversity that is the strength of America. We reflect our values and present an example to the world. With our nation growing international involvement there could be no better time to attract the best and most diverse (inaudible) to represent the American people in every corner of the globe," so says Charlie Rangle. [1:05:05.3]

When we break for lunch we will hear the distinguished Governor of my home state of New York, the Honorable David A. Paterson. He will talk about the importance of building upon the partnerships necessary to translate the watershed victory of democracy in the United States into lasting change. I can't resist remind us that the governor's father, Basil Paterson, once won 61 out of 62 counties in New York State in a Democratic Primary for Lieutenant Governor. And then he joined the of (inaudible) of Goldberg. He was a former United States Secretary of Labor, former United States Supreme Court Justice, former United States United Nations Ambassador, the lousiest damn candidate you ever saw. So Basil did not win, but he would have become the first black Lieutenant Governor of New York State and eyes on the first black governor. So imagine, as I sat in the front row at the state committee meeting and Basil placed David's name in nomination for Lieutenant Governor. I had tears in my eyes. It had come full circle and now that same David is Governor of the State of New York and you will hear from him later. [applause at 1:06:41.3]

Later this afternoon we will meet to share our thoughts and plans for sharing working solutions to education. There are challenges if business and political leaders will be to craft strategies for keeping the doors of the international education open to our future leaders. The world will be a

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dimmer place if we let the lamp of knowledge go out for a generation of our young people. It is within our power to turn up the flame and keep it burning bright, and in the words of President-elect Barack Obama, "Yes we can." [applause at 1:07:24.8]

RFV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you Mr. Mayor, and thank you for looking so wonderful. He's dapper. Amen! Doesn't he look good? [laughter and applause at 1:07:42.4] And Barack Obama stands on your shoulders because you took the blows that shows what a man of faith could do and we thank you for representing us well. [1:07:52.3]

We also are joined by many a (inaudible) joints throughout this conference by many elected officials and some are here this morning; elected officials from the State of New York. You will hear later from the Honorable David Paterson, you heard from our City Controller Honorable William C. Thompson, Jr., Honorable Adolfo Carrion, Jr., President of the Borough of the Bronx; Honorable Nick Perry the Assemblyman for New York State, The Honorable Ruth Hassle-Thompson, State Senator New York State, the Honorable Keith Wright is with us this morning, Assemblyman for the New York State the Honorable Inez Dickens, Council Whip, Member of the New York City Council, and Honorable Dr. Kendall Stewart, Member of the New York City Council. Can we applaud for all of the elected officials from the State of New York? [applause at 1:08:34.3]

And then members of Congress who will be joining us throughout, some of whom you heard last night and today, the Honorable Donald Payne, the Chair of the Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, the Honorable Bernie Thompson, Chair of Homeland Security, Honorable Donna Christensen, the Honorable Chair of the Subcommittee on National Resources, Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee and now we are also going to hear from one of our Presidents of the Congressional Black Caucus, the Honorable Carolyn Cheeks-Kilpatrick. We are going to the federal level y' all [applause at 1:09:09.6] who is our President, Madam President and will be working with Mr. President would you please come and let us receive her this morning for what a wonderful job you have done and you have served with distinction as well and we celebrate and salute you this morning. Can we applaud the other members of the Congress who are with us? [applause at 1:09:29.1]

REP. CAROLYN CHEEKS-KILPATRICK: Giving honor to God who is the head of my life, present protocol being established [laughter at 1:09:46.3], but I've got to say a couple even given that, To Faye and Karl, its really thoroughly been said but thank you from the bottom of all of our hearts. We could not do this without you, Thank you very, very much, [applause 1:10:00.4] We could (inaudible) every week in our Washington offices, but that's how we keep up with the Caribbean if not for the newspaper, there would be no association that we could actually see and know what is going on and how we (inaudible) so thank you very much from the bottom of our heart. Thank you very much, [applause at 1:10:18.6] Commissioner Wescoat-Williams as well as all the commissioners over here, St. Maarten; one more time, thank you for hosting us one more time, we love you, thank you very much. [1:10:29.4]

Our key ingredients for the Congressional Black Caucus where I Chair 43 members, we come from 21 states, we present over 40 million Americans; [applause at 1:10:40.8] five full Committee Chairs, 17 Subcommittee Chairs and others like the Majority Whip and Jim Clyburne from South

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Carolina and others who help to control the Congress. We have the first African doctor in the house, a member of our Caucus who chairs our health branches and very instrumental in us being here, why don't you welcome my sister, Dr. Congresswoman Donna Christensen. [applause 1:11:11.7] Thank you, we love you.

It was mentioned earlier that, and I'm going to say who else is here, you heard from Dr. Payne and I know if he is here in this room you will hear from him again, you did last night, who chairs our Western Hemisphere Committee, Bennie Thompson who is here and I think he came through last night, he chairs our Homeland Security Committee also will be here. Sheila Jackson Lee from Houston, Texas and I know many of you know her, she is en route and will be here just shortly. Our number uno Congressman, second only to John Conyers in seniority, from the great state of New York, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, our big brother Charlie Rangel will be here this afternoon. [applause at 1:11:55.3]

And what you probably don't know is the federal budget is \$3 trillion dollars. Charlie's committee handles \$2 trillion of that for Medicare, Medicaid, for veterans programs; his committee is the committee that produces the revenue, \$2 trillion of it, giving it out in what we call entitlements to those programs. I served on Appropriations where the committee spends the money, and I like that too. We spend a million and Charlie generates it and gives it all by formula to the entire committee and our committee handles the appropriations in sending it out. [1:12:33.0]

Together we make up the Congressional Black Caucus and it was said earlier, many more members will be coming and will have come over the years, but I just wanted to say a point of personal privilege, this last six months, the last two months and the last two weeks, members of the Congressional Black Caucus have been crisscrossing America for our now President, Senator Barack Obama. [applause at 1:13:00.1] Even as we had our own elections [applause 1:13:02.4] Tuesday we were all on the ballot as well but (inaudible) just thinking as it relates to it's is major, but most of us went to many states all over this country. [1:13:12.4]

You see 18 of our members represent less than 50% of the African Americans; three of our members represent less than 15% African Americans, the most that any of us represent is a 62% African American so we represent all of America, Asians, Africans, Latinos, Europeans, Native Americans, you name it and we are called the conscious of the Congress and we really are that you know. [1:13:38.5]

God built us from a certain kind of way and we got some of this stuff in us that you do, you cross ethnic lines and it makes us stand up for righteousness, speak up on injustices and when we see something wrong you have to hear it because, of course, we are the conscious of the Congress. So in the spirit of (inaudible) is that Congresswoman Christensen talks about healthcare it's real. They have more because we have less. [1:14:03.2]

We hope and we know that with President Obama yes we had some difficult times in the Mayor laid them out well. And to the sponsors by the way, all of you, we couldn't do this, be with you, help Karl if you weren't here with us so we say thank you very much, you are so important. To all of the sponsors, thank you very much. [applause at 1:14:23.9]

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So as we move to these next four years, two months, 32 days - talk about the short period between November 5th and August 20th, [sic] President Bush is still the President. Our Constitution says that if there is unrest or malice or whatever, the sitting President can hold off and not let happen the January 20th date. There isn't many people that know about that, so we don't want any - we were kind of scared about November 4th when we won. We wanted everybody to be prayerful, be (inaudible) and have fun and all that, don't burn [1:15:00.5]

END PART 2

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TRANSCRIPT OF AUDIO FILE:

11-7AMSESSION - LAST 20 MIN

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BEGIN PART 3:

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON COOK: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Thank you for looking so wonderful. He's dapper. Amen. Doesn't he look good? (clapping). Barack stands on your shoulders because you took the blows and showed what a man of faith could do and we thank you for representing us well.

We also are joined by many and will be joined throughout this conference by many elected officials. Some are here this morning: elected officials from the State of New York. You will hear later from the Honorable David Patterson. You've heard from our city controller, William C. Thompson, Jr., Honorable Adolpho Carrion, Jr., President of the Boroughs of the Bronx, Honorable Nick Hardy, the assemblyman from New York State, the Honorable Ruth Hassell Thompson, State Senator of New York State, the Honorable Keith Wright is with us this morning, assemblyman from New York State, the Honorable Inez Dickens, council whip member of the New York City Council, and Honorable Dr. Kendall Stuart, member of the New York City Council. Can we applaud for all of the elected officials of the State of New York? (clapping)

Members of Congress who will be joining us throughout. Some of whom you have heard from them last night and today, the Honorable Donald Payne, Chair of Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, the Honorable Bennie Thompson, Chair of Homeland Security, Honorable Donna Christensen, the Honorable Chair of Subcommittee on National Resources, Honorable Sheila Jackson-Lee, and now we hope to also hear from one of our presidents of the Congressional Black Caucus, the Honorable Carolyn Cheeks-Kilpatrick. We're going to the federal level you all: who is our (inaudible) president. We're only working with Mr. President. Will you please come and let us receive her this morning for what a wonderful job you have done and you have served with distinction as well, and we celebrate and salute you this morning. Can we applaud the other members of Congress (inaudible) (clapping).

REP. CAROLYN CHEEKS-KILPATRICK: Giving honor to God who's the head of my life, present protocol being established, but I've got to say in comfort even given that, To Fay and Karl, really (inaudible) really from the bottom of all of our hearts. I cannot be this without you. Thank.

you very much. We could (inaudible) ever week in our Washington offices and that's how we keep up with the Caribbean. If not for the newspaper, there would be no association that we could actually see and know what's going on and how we plug in. So thank you very much from the bottom of my heart. Thank you very much.

Commissioner Wescott-Williams, as well as all commissioner's who are here, St. Maarten, one more time. Thanks for hosting us. We love you. Thank you very much.

I bring you greetings from the Congressional Black Caucus, where I chair 43 members. We come from 21 states. We represent over 40 million Americans, 5 full mini chairs, 17 subcommittee chairs, and others like the majority whip and Jim Clyburn from South Carolina, and others who helped to control the Congress. We have the first African doctor in the house, a member of our caucus, who chairs our health brain trust and very instrumental in being here. As being here, won't you welcome my sister back, your Congresswoman Donna Christensen? Thank you, Donna. We love you.

It was mentioned earlier that, I'm going to say who else is here, you heard from Donald Payne, and I know if he's hear in this room, you will hear from him again. You did last night. He chairs our Western Hemisphere Committee. Bennie Thompson, who's here, and I think he came through last night, he chairs our Homeland Security Committee. Also will be here, Sheila Jackson-Lee from Houston, Texas. I know many of you know her. En route, she will be here just shortly. Our number uno congressman, second only to John Conyers in seniority, from the great State of New York, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, our big brother, Charlie Rangel, will be here this afternoon.

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As it was said earlier, many more members will be coming and have come over the years, but I just wanted to say, a point of personal privilege. This last 6 months, the last 2 months, and the last 2 weeks. Members of the Congressional Black Caucus have been criss-crossing America for our now president, Senator Barack Obama. Even as we had our own election, Tuesday, August 4th, we were all on the ballot as well, but ours wasn't as significant as relates to us as major, but most of us went to many states all over this country. You see, 18 of our members represent less than 50% African-American. Three of our members represent less than 15% African-American. The most that any of us represent is 62% African-American. So we represent all of America: Asians, Africans, Latinos, Europeans, Native Americans. You name it.

We're called the Conscience of the Congress and we really are that. You know, God built us in a certain kind of way. We got some of this stuff in us, as you do with you. Across ethnic lines, it makes us stand up for righteousness, speak up on injustices, and when we see something wrong.

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you have to hear it because, of course, we're the Conscience of the Congress. So the disparities that Donna, Congresswoman Christensen, talks about in health care, it's real. They have more because we have less. We hope and we know that with President Obama, yes we have some difficult times and the Mayor laid them out well. And to the sponsors by the way, all of you all. We couldn't do this, be with you, help Karl if you weren't here with us. We say, "thank you-very much. You are so important". All the sponsors. Thank you very much.

So as we move through these next 4 years, 2 months, 32 days, talk about the short period between November 5th and August 20th, President Bush is still the president. Our constitution says that if there is unrest or malice or whatever, the sitting president can hold off and not let happen the 20th day. There are few people that know about that. So we don't want any, we were kind of scared about November 4th when we won. We wanted everybody to do prayer. There will be a tone-in and have fun, and all that. Don't burn nothing down. Don't burn up a car and all that because they're waiting. Some people are waiting. Some people are very angry. We are euphoric. God is euphoric and people across ethnic lines, you saw them. The multi-cultural facets of America happy because it was a perfect storm. Financial markets crashing. People losing jobs. Health care unaffordable. Our schools in shambles. Big bad America and we still are: it's just this 8 years we have a man in the White House who knew not Joseph. In his leadership of our country, he not only decimated America, but caused havoc around the world. I know you know that.

So we've got a lot of building to do. What Karl and Fay has done is to energize each of us so we take our rightful places. All of you and all of us together. I'm going to bring into this room 2 of my sisters who we lost over the last year. Congresswoman Stephanie Stubb-Jones, Cleveland, Ohio, will be right here. Right over here, smiling and said "Let's do this". I want you to give a shout-out for Stephanie. She's up in here right now. Congresswoman Juanita Milligram-McDonald from Los Angeles, also with the ancestors are up in here right now. Both chair people I might add. Congresswoman Stephanie Stubb-Jones (sp) of our Ethics Committee and Congresswoman Juanita (inaudible) McDonald of our House Administration Committee. Finally, all during this tenure, 2 years is what Congress is, this is the 110th congress. So many historical things have happened that I mentioned to you already, including electing our first African American president. Then finally Julia Carson from Indianapolis, Indiana, also (inaudible) has been to this conference many many times.

So my brothers and sisters across racial, ethnic gender, geographic, biological, (inaudible) we have much work to do, but it can be done. Because I believe there is a higher power who's directing all of this. We just have to know it and believe it, and do it, and be centered in a higher power.

So as members of the Congressional Black Caucus, as we go back next week to address the financial crisis. You all have been hearing about this \$700 billion, every time I say it, we handle a trillion, our committee, \$700 billion is what we just gave out or given out as we speak. The good thing about that, they were trying to give it all out, \$300 billion of it is gone, but the good news, the new president, anything they put in force, he can pull it back. So we have an opportunity to do some real comprehensive stuff.

The housing market? No more foreclosures. Those same people who got the \$700 billion, they were the ones who caused 80%, 85% of the foreclosing. Do you all know that? Predatory lending.

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Loss of jobs. Shifting our jobs over seas. You see, when the financial people do their thing, (inaudible) a billion here and here. It's paper. It's two clicks of the mouse. They were selling bad paper then and they were making big money. My sister, Susan. Let's give Susan a hand. Essence Magazine. Love you girl. (inaudible). We have to be smarter and better as we go forward. Senator Barak Obama. and you may have heard about his prudent campaign. Most of us in this room a 1-1/2 or 2 years. we thought it couldn't done. because we lived with the same people who had to do it. But the perfect storm. Don't forget that. The perfect storm caused by humans. Greedy humans in many cases.

I do a lot of work in the Middle East; Egypt, as well as Lebanon. I do (inaudible) and they're great people, but this president castigated Arabs. In Michigan, where I come from, and John Conyers, we have the largest population of Arabs outside of the Middle East. They've been in our community for decades. They go to our schools. Our children know them. They help and help to build the community. Yes, there are a few bad ones who blew up some (inaudible). God took care of them. They're going to be taking care of. But just like we don't want everybody to measure African-American by a few who do bad things, there are good things in all people. I believe that as President Obama comes into fruition, a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, his job, and he really does believe this. is to bring the races of God's people together. Whether you know God as God, or Allah, or Jehovah, or what have you, that if you really believed in a higher power, let's get busy and rebuild the world.

So, my brothers and sisters, we got a lot of work to do and you do as we go back to New York. Keep the (inaudible) operating. Keep your will strong and knowing that, as president takes his oath and pray that nothing happens between November 5th and January 20th. He can call marshal law. He can go around the country and lock up heathens and Christians, which isn't going to happen. Lock up anybody who might be subversive or such. Create an environment so that January 20th may not ever happen. That's the nightmare. Now snap back. Wake up. He won. It's going to be all right. Let's build a new America again. Let's make sure that our children can have adequate education because it's no longer Michigan against Indiana or Ohio, Michigan against China. It's US against the world and we can build those partnerships the way we do with Faye and Karl, and all of us who have been working for all of these years.

Thirteen is a significant number in the Bible. Thirteen is a number that renews us, gets us ready for the next state of our development. So as we meet here in beautiful St. Maarten, let us rededicate ourselves to a higher power to each other, to knowing that we can do anything but fail. God bless you. (clapping).

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON COOK: Now that's a sister who's got it going on. Thank you so, so much, Congresswoman, Madam President of the Congressional Black Caucus. We can see why. Amen. We are looking forward to great things ahead and you have us as the wind beneath your wings. All of you Congressional Black Caucus members, we are with you so much. Let the church say, "Amen".

We just want to share with you before we present our next speaker. This evening, our host country is going to present us with a fantastic affair. It's going to be offsite and we hope you won't miss it. Transportation is going to be coordinated and we are going to ask that you meet in the lobby at 6:15

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tonight. The transportation will be coordinated by our local government. It's a casual event. It's a beach site affair tonight and we're asking all conference attendees to gather at 6:15 sharp in the lobby for departure. So that's our night affair tonight and we will repeat that announcement throughout the day. If you will just please make note of that as we go forward.

We've heard from the city level. We have heard from the federal government. You know, we are so excited about our first African-American president and many of us also wanted a woman in and it was not a woman's time. It was time for Barak Obama, but in this country, it is a woman's time. As the commissioner who is the leader of government for St. Maarten. Come on somebody. It is Commissioner Sarah Westcot-Williams, our host. She has been gracious. She is elegant. She is eloquent and we are excited about being received by her today. Commissioner Sarah Westcot-Williams. (clapping)

COMMISSONER SARAH WESTCOT-WILLIAMS: Thank you reverends and a very good morning. There's another way to deal with the selfish (sp) protocol and that is by saying. "Welcome friends to St. Maartens". I can say this notwithstanding the many luminaries in our midst because it is truly a welcome to old friends and new acquaintances.

This conference, at this time, on this island, would not have been possible if it was not for the resoluteness and conviction of Mr. and Mrs. Rodney. It was 6 years ago that many of you were here on St. Maarten for the conference as well. It is with a lot of confidence that last year, I threw out the idea of why not again St. Maarten. has been at that time five years ago. This year, it is six years ago. It was only after throwing it up as we sat down to plan, I realized that this conference would have been held two days following the most important election in modern times of the United States of America. As we, Commissioner Malven (sp) and myself visited Karl and Jay in New York, I said to him, "Karl, as much as I want this conference on St. Maarten, I don't know if the timing is right." He said without being presumptuous about the outcome of the election, he said, "Oh no, I believe the timing is right". And with a glee in his eyes, I suspected that he was counting on a victory and a big one, and felt that St. Maarten would be a place where we could celebrate that victory.

This small island of ours, and I'm aware of the clock just in case I was to get any sign from the back, but this small island of ours, only 37 square miles and that is both sides of the island, tonight you probably would understand. You will get to know how we share the island, but I can tell you that St. Maarten is the smallest side of the two. Nevertheless, we accommodate close to two million tourists annually on this island. Approximately 1.5 million visit our island by cruise and the others come here to stay over with us, relax and enjoy our island. And yes it is so opportune and truly a region in transition.

Throughout this region, every island, every island nation, every country, is going through some sort of transition. For St. Maarten itself, we are going through a major constitutional transition. Moving from what others term as called an island territory, a remnant of a colonial system, to that of country within the kingdom of the Netherlands. The French side, just last year, moved from a French municipality to what is called in their terms, "a collectivity". So yes, this region is truly in transition and change is all around us. This side is so important for the relationships between the

09-2567 0059

United States of America and the Caribbean region. I am again so thrilled to hear so many of you speak of kinship, relationships, and ancestry as you recognize this region for what it is.

Term water (sp)? Yes. Maybe, but definitely a part of the United States of America. However you take it or twist it. The Diaspora of the West Indies and the United States of America. It's big. It is great and we need to continue to recognize that forging those relationships strengthen it year after year through this conference call is extremely important. As if it wasn't enough to realize that we were going to start a conference two days after such an important election, just barely three weeks ago, St. Maarten was brushed by Hurricane Omar, a category 3 hurricane. So if you were around and you noticed that the scenery is not exactly what you expected of it, if you feel a little in the roads as you go from place to place, recognize that that is what had happened. But Karl decided the conference was going to go on and the conference will go on, Karl, right here in St. Maarten.

So tonight it is my pleasure to host you at another side of the island because you are here two days after the election, two days after a historic election, and yes, notwithstanding the turmoil and the challenges, President Barak Obama is going to face, the party too will continue and the party on St. Maarten will continue this evening on the other side of the island hosted by the Government of St. Maarten. I encourage you and those who are part of the latest workshop this afternoon, to do it well, right, and try to get out as soon as possible so that we can move from here in a timely fashion and the police escort will only be something to show you how proud we are of having all of you here. But we will get to the other side of the island nicely, on time. A region in transition. Thank you for being here at this time in your history and in our history.

I welcome all of you and it is wonderful to be able to open this conference in a time like this because it is for such a time that you are here and we are here, and it is such a time that President Barak Obama was chosen to lead the United States of America and, with that leadership, to be the leader of the free world. If, just if, approximately 40,000 more persons voted could have given him even more votes, he would have had those from right here on St. Maarten, the friendly island of the early (inaudible). So today, we too rejoice with you and we too are hopeful that the change that is coming will be a good one for all of us. We just hope that some of that invigoration and renewed energy that we all will get from this conference will serve you well, when you go back and will serve us well as we continue to build our island nations from strength to strength and with God, all things are possible. Have we not seen that on November 4, 2008. What a wonderful way to celebrate and, Karl, what a wonderful thing to happen (inaudible) St. Maarten and deciding the conference welcomes the 13th Annual Multi-National Caribbean Business Conference. Thank you. Welcome. Enjoy it and may God continue to bless you richly. Thank you.

The question was how casual can you be tonight? You be as casual as you feel comfortable on an island that is your host. So men, absolutely no jacket and ties. I would not recommend that, but be as casual as you've been comfortable. Thank you.

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON COOK: All right. This is where we break. Hold on. We have (inaudible) ceremony. If you will just wait for us please. We're going to invite all of the sponsors and the elective officials to please join the Rodney's as our host today, here up front for our ribbon cutting ceremony. All of our sponsors, all of our elected officials that are present, please come and

09-2567 0060

join us up front. Those who are our speakers this morning, please right here in the front of the stage, and we will be lead. All rise. (singing)

END TRANSCRIPT

09-2567 0061

Exhibit 4

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative of Citi
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: March 17, 2009
Location: AkinGump NYC - 399 Park Ave, New York, NY
Time: approximately 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: The Representative of Citi was the Citi employee who managed their donation to the Thirteenth Annual Multinational Business Conference. The OCE requested an interview with the Representative of Citi and he consented. The Representative of Citi made the following statements in response to questioning:

1. The Representative of Citi was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. The Representative of Citi signed a written acknowledgement of the warning [attached],
2. The Representative of Citi was laid off from Citibank on December 15, 2008. At the time he was laid off he was Community Relations Officer for Brooklyn and Staten Island
3. The Representative of Citi joined Citi in December 2003. He had previously worked for Chase in a similar capacity. Chase sponsored previous Caribbean Multinational Business Conferences. The Representative of Citi attended the conference when he was at Chase. Chase was the first financial institution to act as a sponsor at the conference.
4. When he came to Citi, he was told to "lead the charge" in terms of Citi's participation in the conference. His superiors made the decision that Citi should participate.

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5. The Representative of Citi's direct supervisor was Eileen Aulden, New York State Director; she reported to Kathy Ebanks, Regional Director. Eric Eve, Senior Vice President for Community Relations headed the Representative of Citi's department. Mr. Eve made the decision to support the conference and decided on the dollar amount. The Representative of Citi was in charge of managing Citi's participation.
6. Citi donated \$75,000 to support the conference. Citi was the only "senior" sponsor. The money was specifically for the conference. Citi did not put any specific restrictions on how the money could be used to support the conference. The check came from Citi's sponsorship budget and was either made out to the Carib News or the Carib News Foundation.
7. In previous years the amount Citi donated was less. In 2007 it was \$50,000.
8. Karl Rodney chose the location of the conference. Governments in the region made bids to host the conference.
9. The only person from the conference that the Representative of Citi dealt with was Rodney. The Representative of Citi met with Rodney on 5 occasions between May and November 2008. These meetings concerned the program at the conference and Citi's participation in it. These meetings were not about the amount of Citi's sponsorship or to negotiate that in any way. The Representative of Citi described this interaction as a "dialogue" with Rodney. Rodney was receptive to suggestions about the program.
10. At these meeting the Representative of Citi would tell Rodney how he would like to "position" Citi at the conference. Citi participated in the luncheon, with Eve as a keynote speaker, and in workshops that fit their business. The lunch topic was set by Rodney. The Representative of Citi then tried to "position" Eve in a complimentary way. The Representative of Citi recalls suggesting to Rodney that Citi could do a workshop on financial education.
11. Rodney did not present a written agenda for the conference before any of their 5 meetings. The first time the Representative of Citi saw a written agenda was a week or a week and a half before the conference began in early November. The Representative of Citi recalls seeing a draft agenda. He was shown the draft agenda submitted to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct [attached as Exhibit B] and said he saw some version of the draft agenda but not this specific one. He did recall seeing the panel entitled, "Creative Financial Solutions" on page 9 of Exhibit B. He said when he saw

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

that panel he thought he could participate in the panel and talk about foreclosures. He "vetted" that topic internally at Citi and then proposed it to Rodney and Rodney agreed.

12. The Representative of Citi attended the dinner on Thursday night. He does not recall Congressman Payne speaking.
13. The Representative of Citi participated in the ribbon cutting with members of Congress, host government officials and major sponsors on the Friday morning of the conference. The Representative of Citi got sick on Friday and missed the evening event.
14. Eve did not have a sit-down meeting with the members of Congress in attendance to the Representative of Citi's knowledge.
15. The Representative of Citi did not have more than "cursory" conversations with the Members of Congress who attended. He saw all members that attended more than once. He saw most of them on Friday and had seen everyone by Saturday.
 - a. The Representative of Citi recalled Congressman Rangel was there. The Representative of Citi thought he first saw him on Friday and saw him on Saturday. The Representative of Citi thought he saw him at different events.
 - b. The Representative of Citi saw Congressman Payne on more than one occasion.
 - c. The Representative of Citi saw Representative Kilpatrick early on Friday. He does not recall her speaking.
 - d. The Representative of Citi saw Representative Thomson on Thursday; he saw him on more than one occasion.
16. 300 to 350 people typically attended the event. It was open to anyone.
17. The conference was billed as the Carib News conference. Rodney is the publisher and CEO of the Carib News. In May or June one would start seeing advertisements for the conference on the back page of the Carib News. The Representative of Citi thought Citi's check went to the Carib News Foundation but did not know what the Foundation did other than the conference. The Representative of Citi thought the conference was "totally" financed by the sponsors. He did not know if Carib News put up any money for the conference.

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18. The Representative of Citi said Rodney saw the conference as an opportunity to position the Carib News as the "voice of the Caribbean" which is how the paper markets itself in New York.
19. Citi saw the conference as offering Citi three benefits: (1) it sent a message to their partners; (2) it was a business opportunity; and (3) it was good for Citi's image.
20. The members of Congress lent the meeting "clout."
21. Sponsors also bought ad space in the Carib News. This was not part of their sponsorship of the conference. Citi bought ad space in the Carib News.
22. The Representative of Citi also knows Rodney from the Board of the University of the West Indies. Both he and Rodney are members and participate in telephone meetings and, occasionally, in in-person meetings.

We certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with the Representative of Citi on March 17, 2009.

Leo J. Wise
Staff Director & Chief Counsel

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

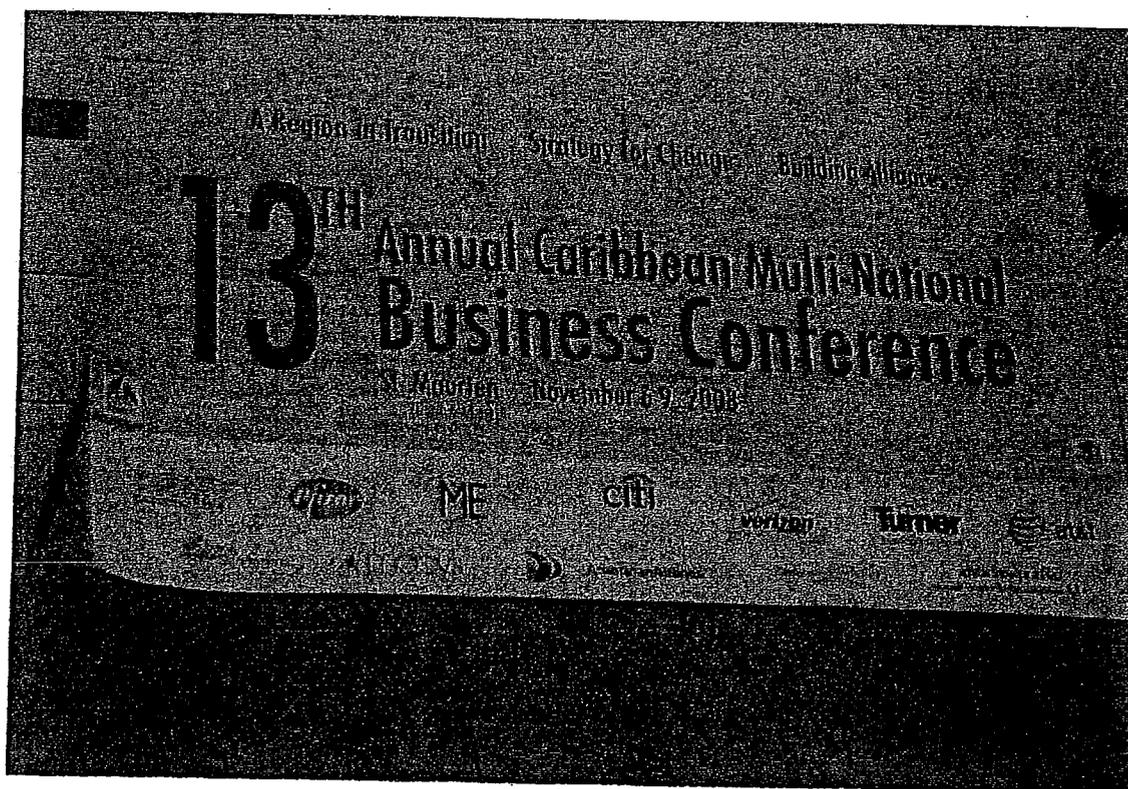
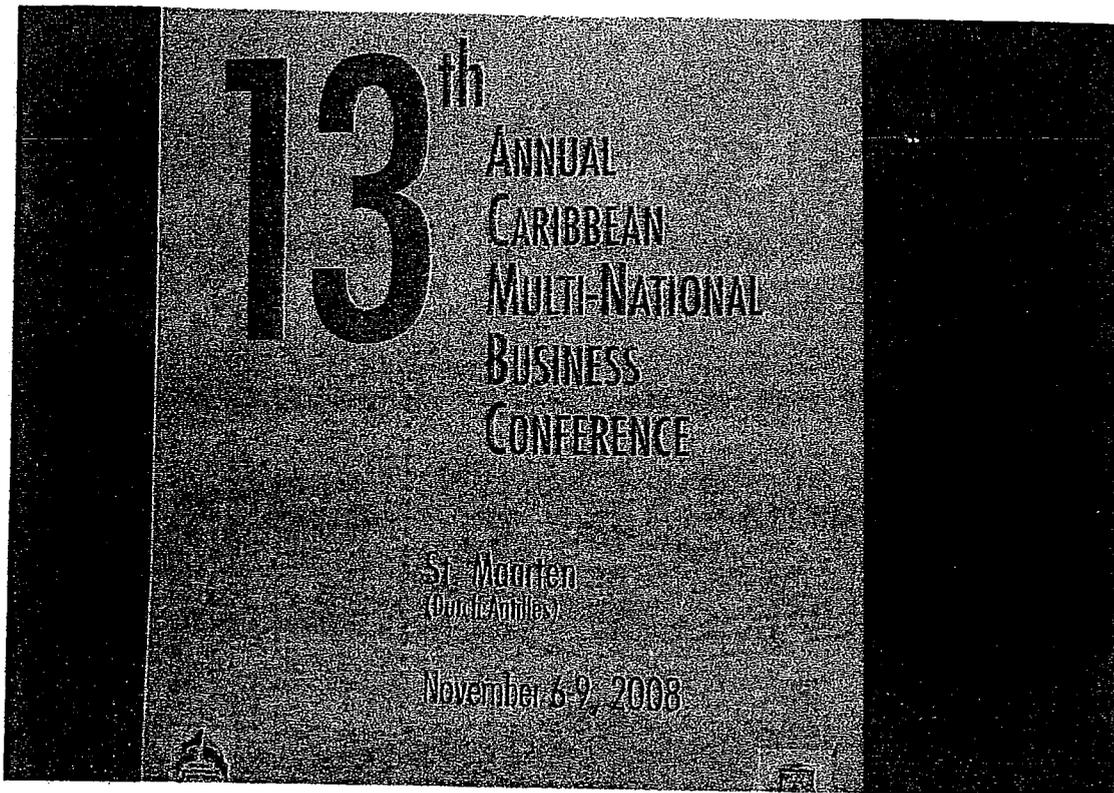
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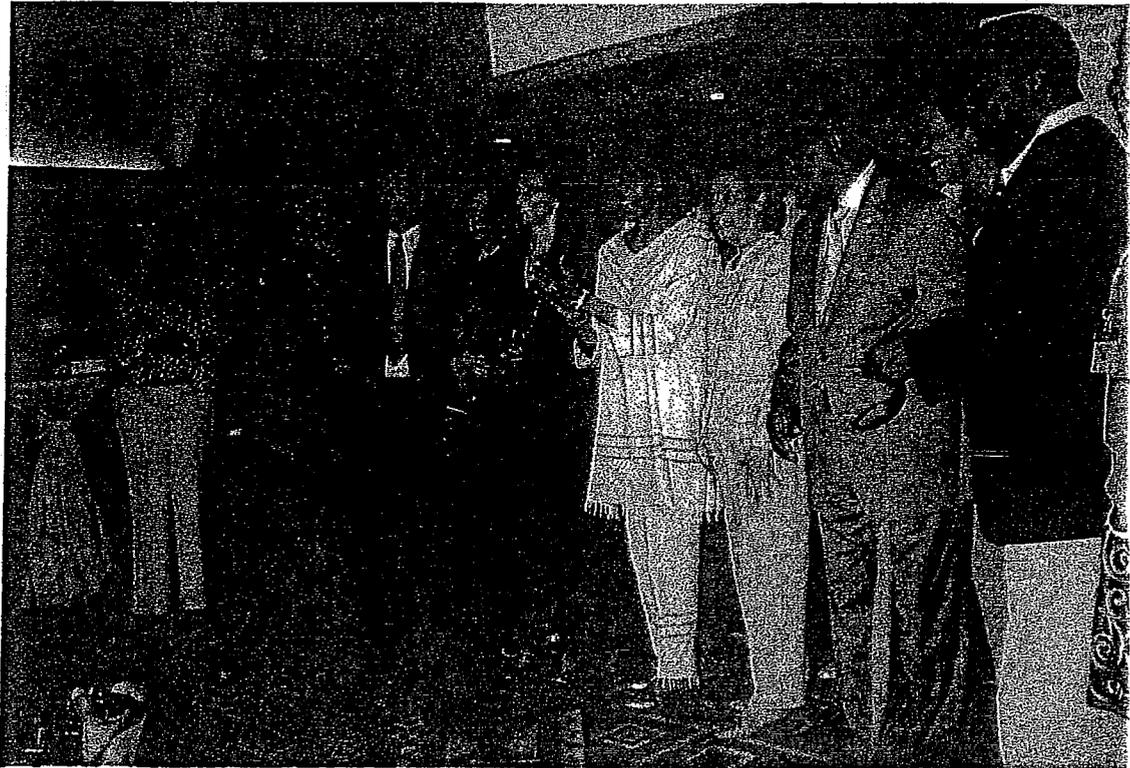
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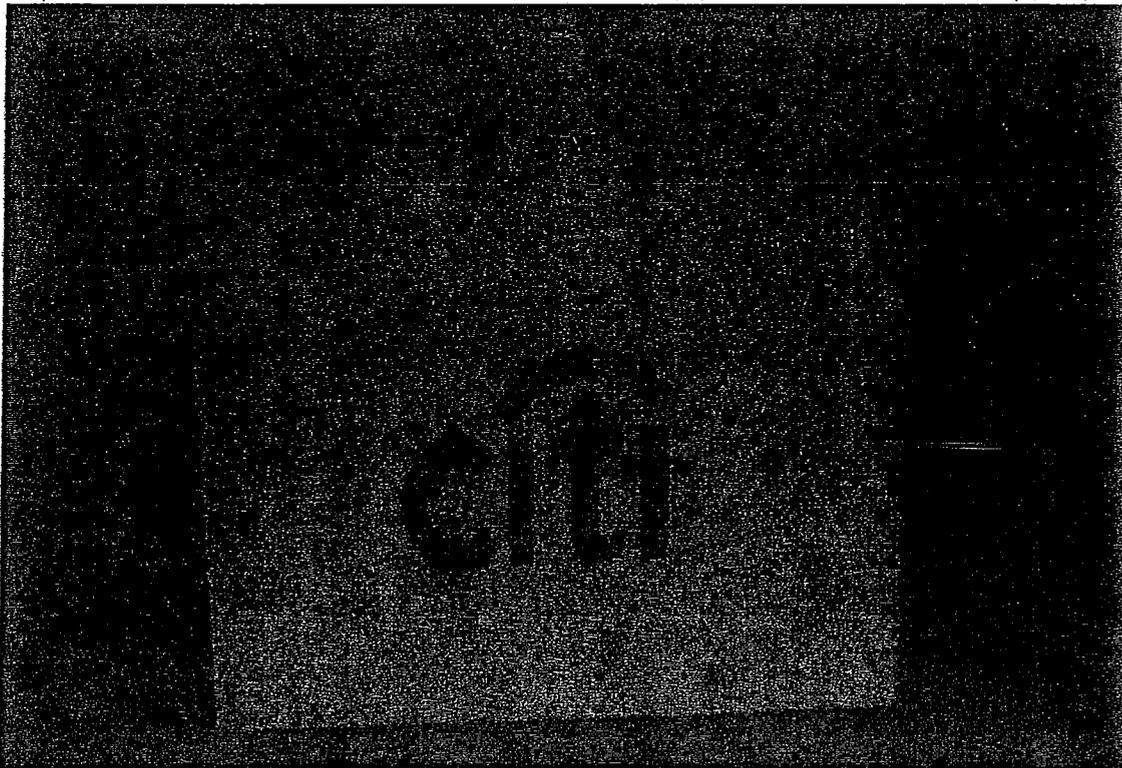
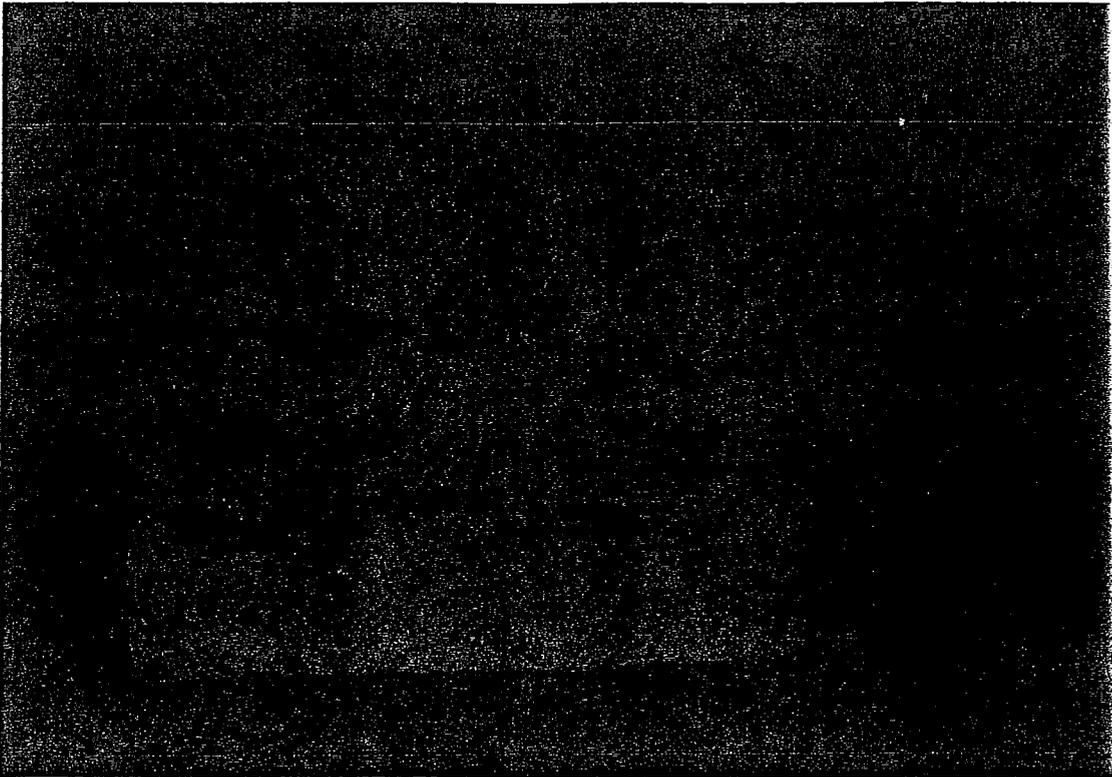
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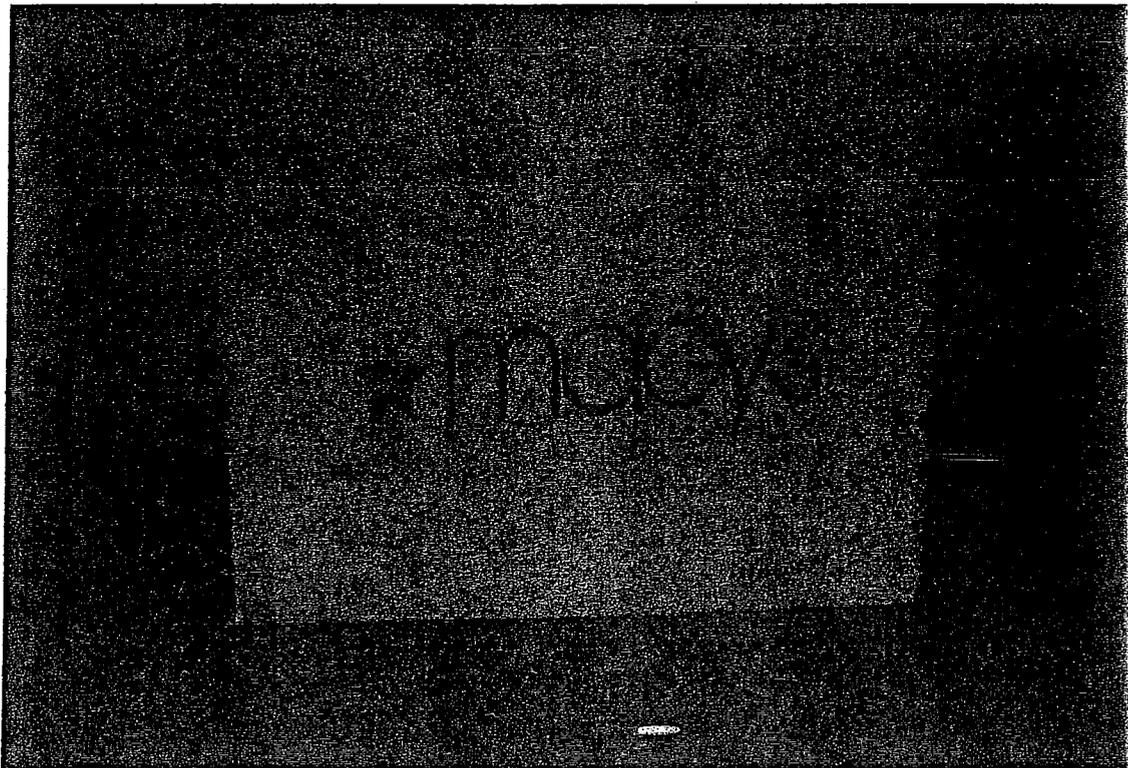
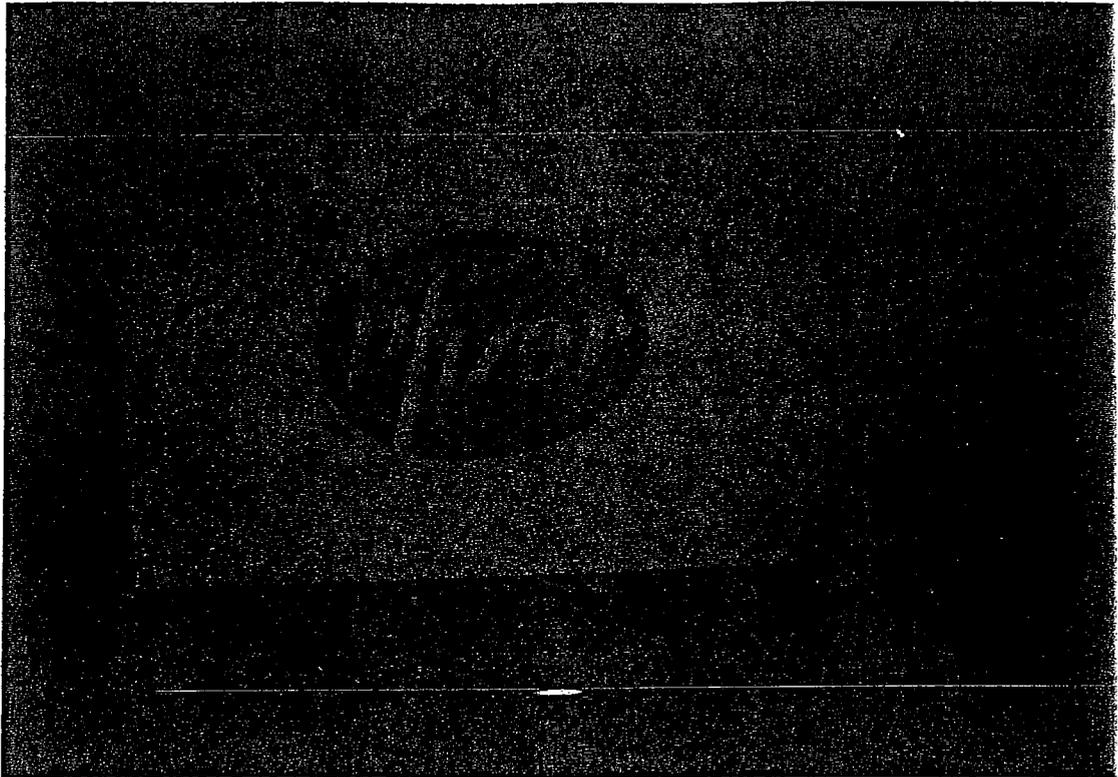
Exhibit 5

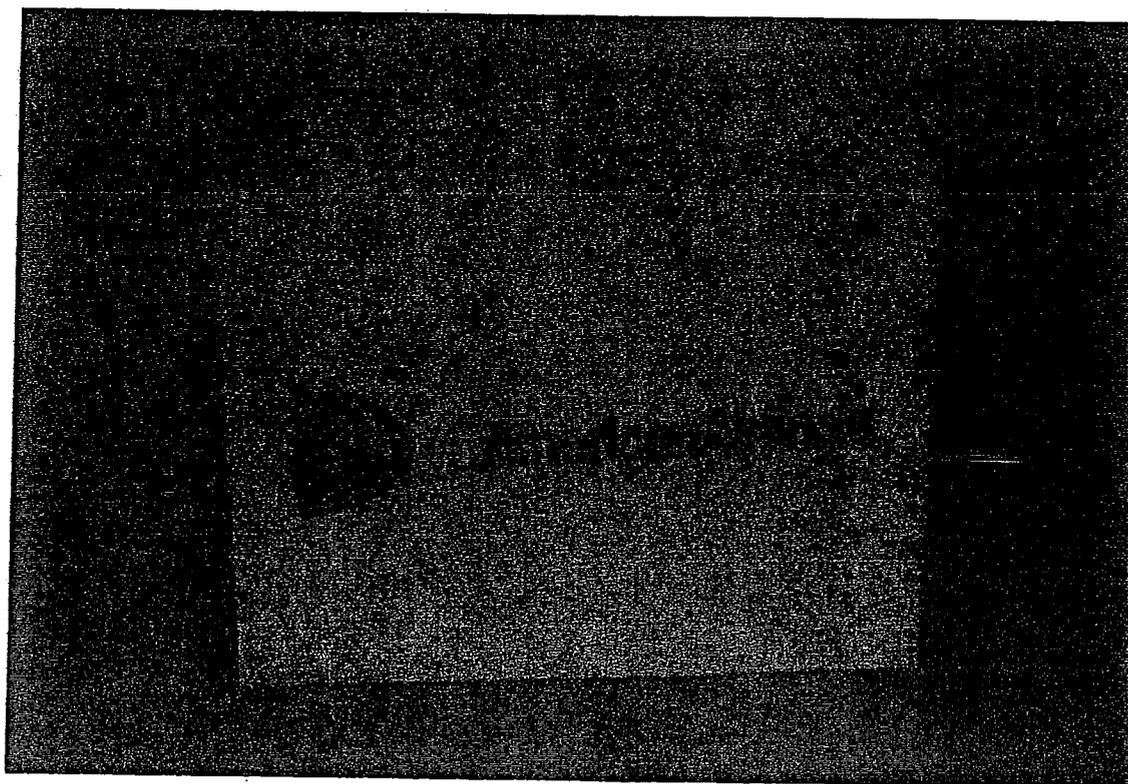
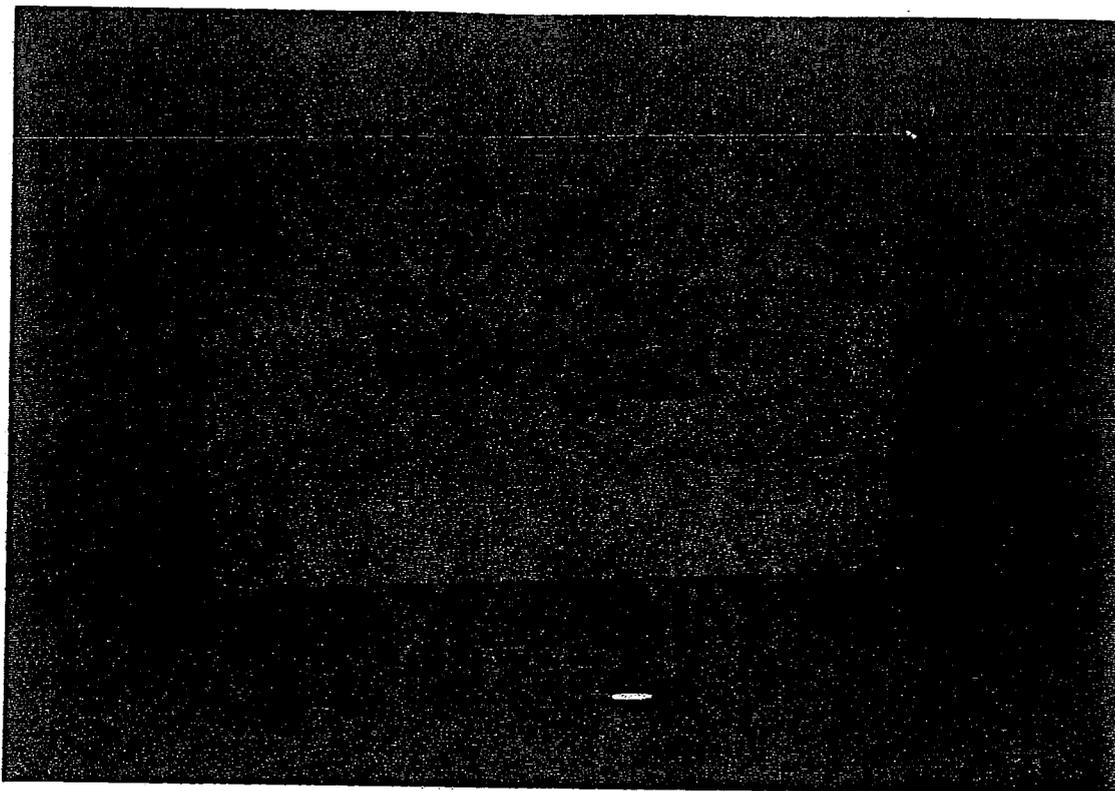
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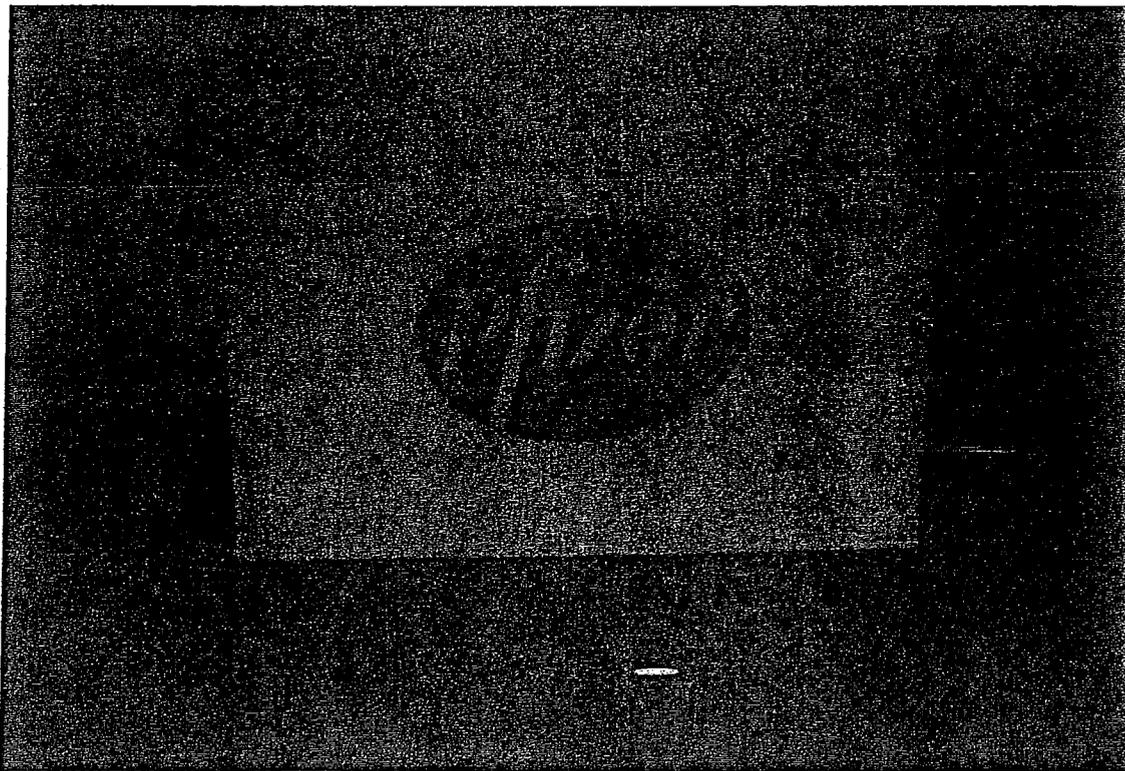
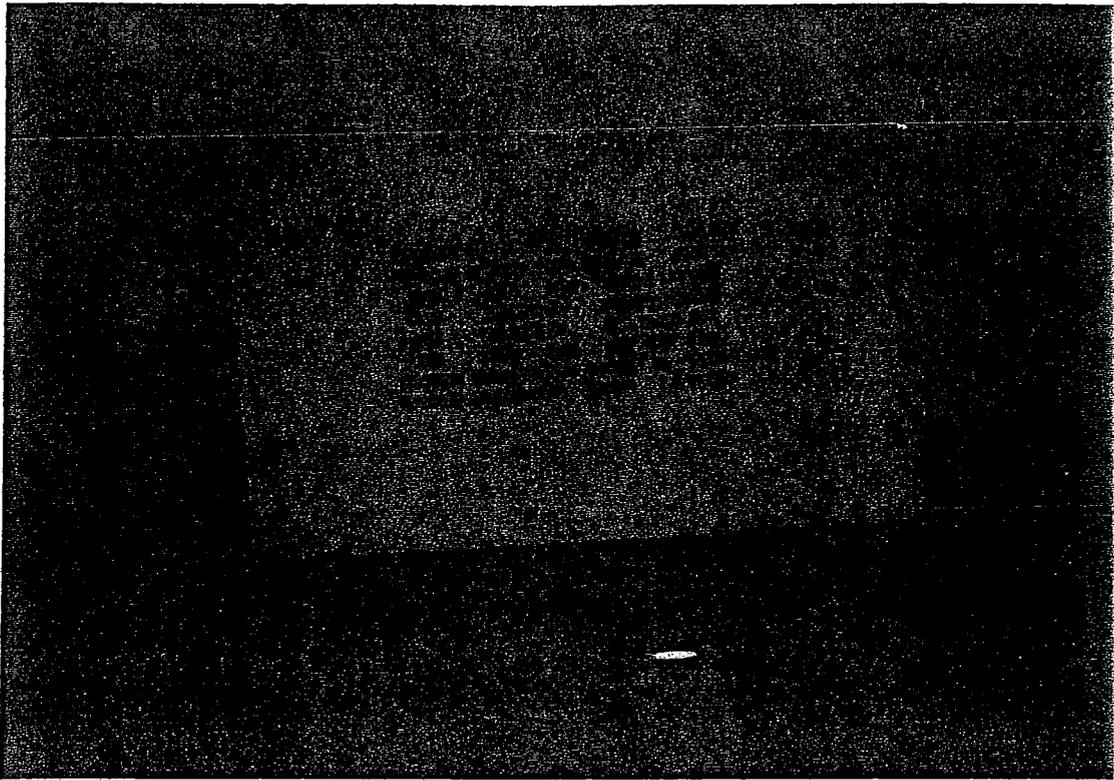


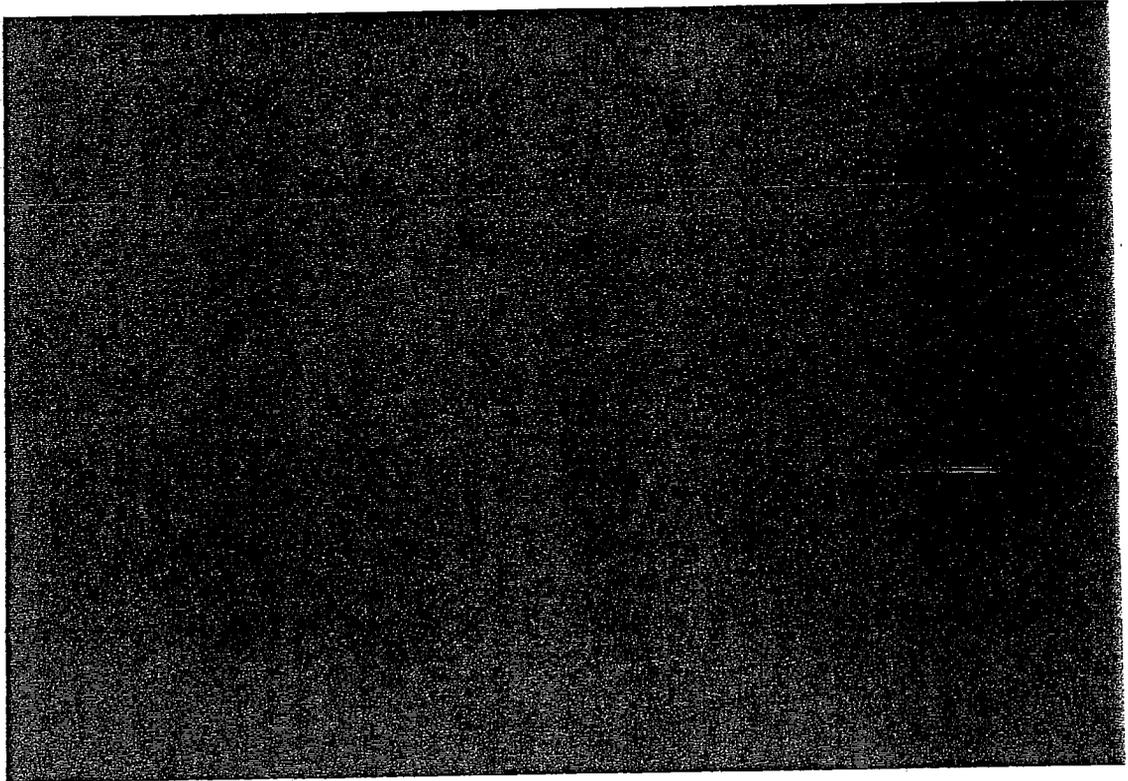
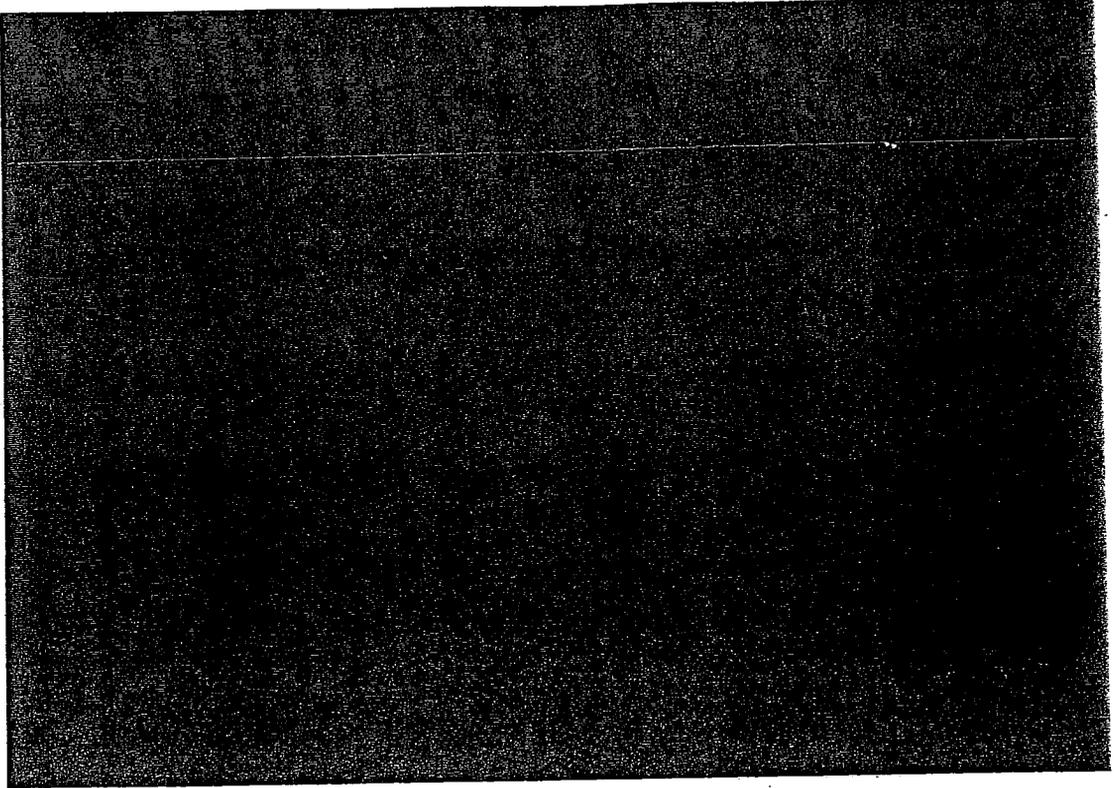


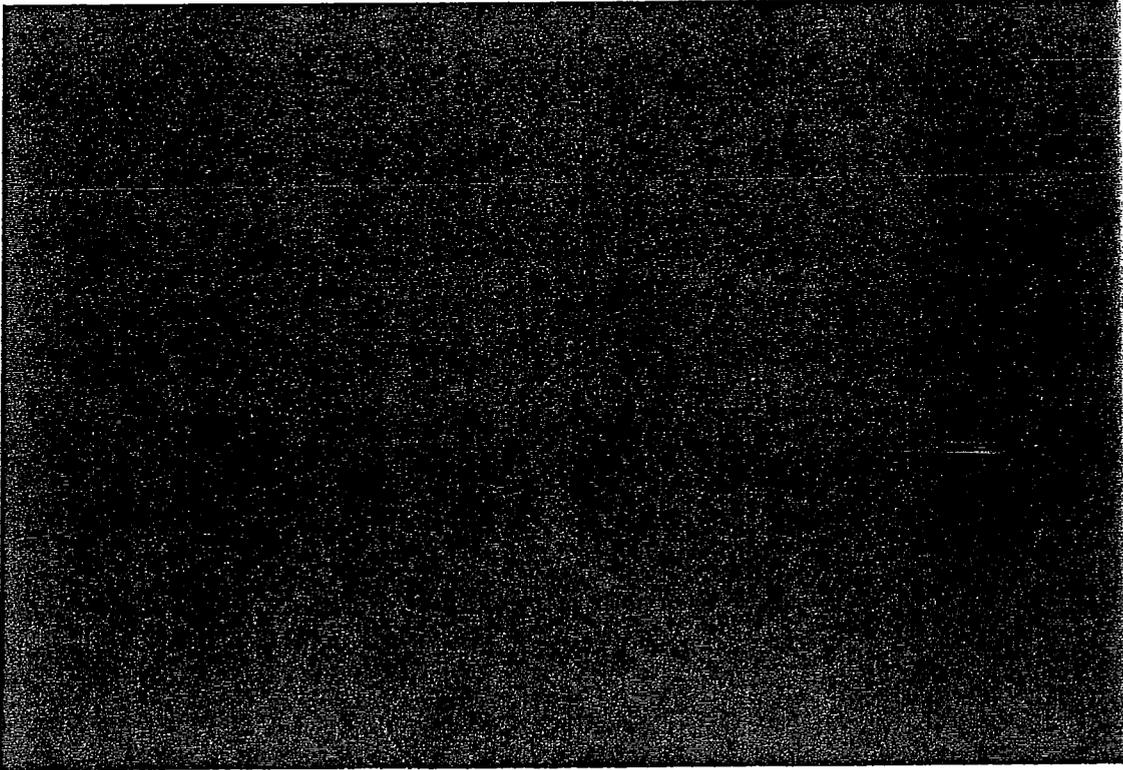
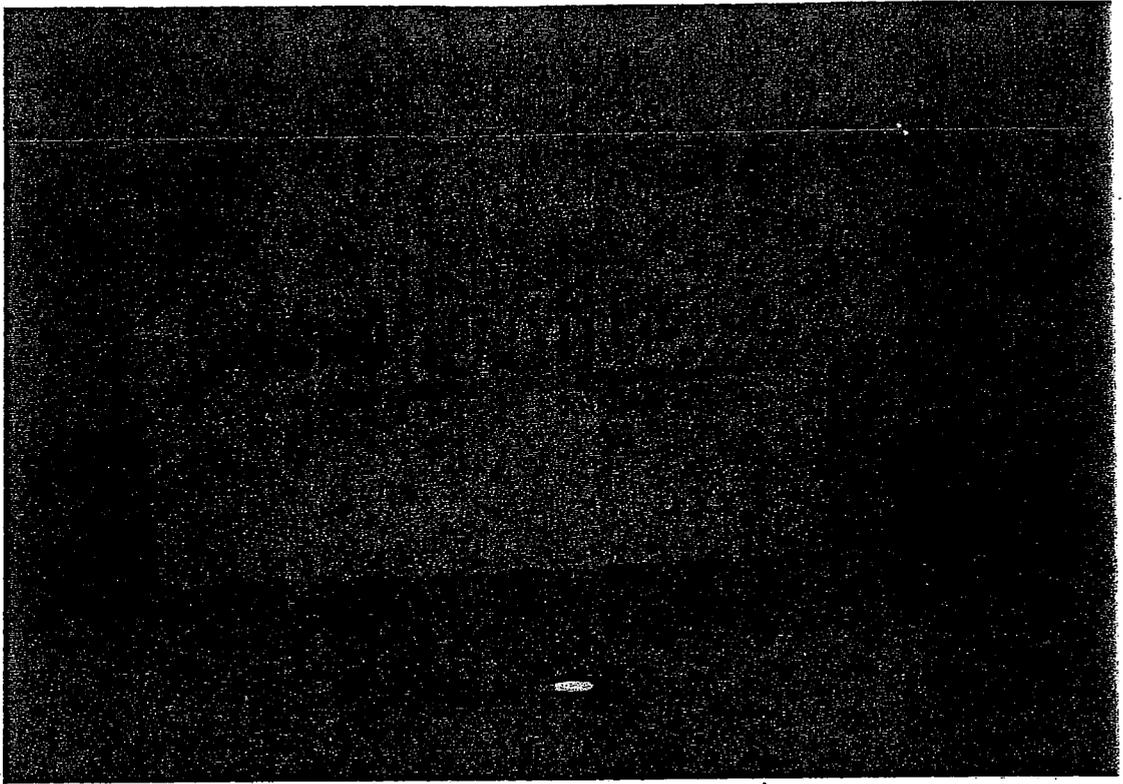












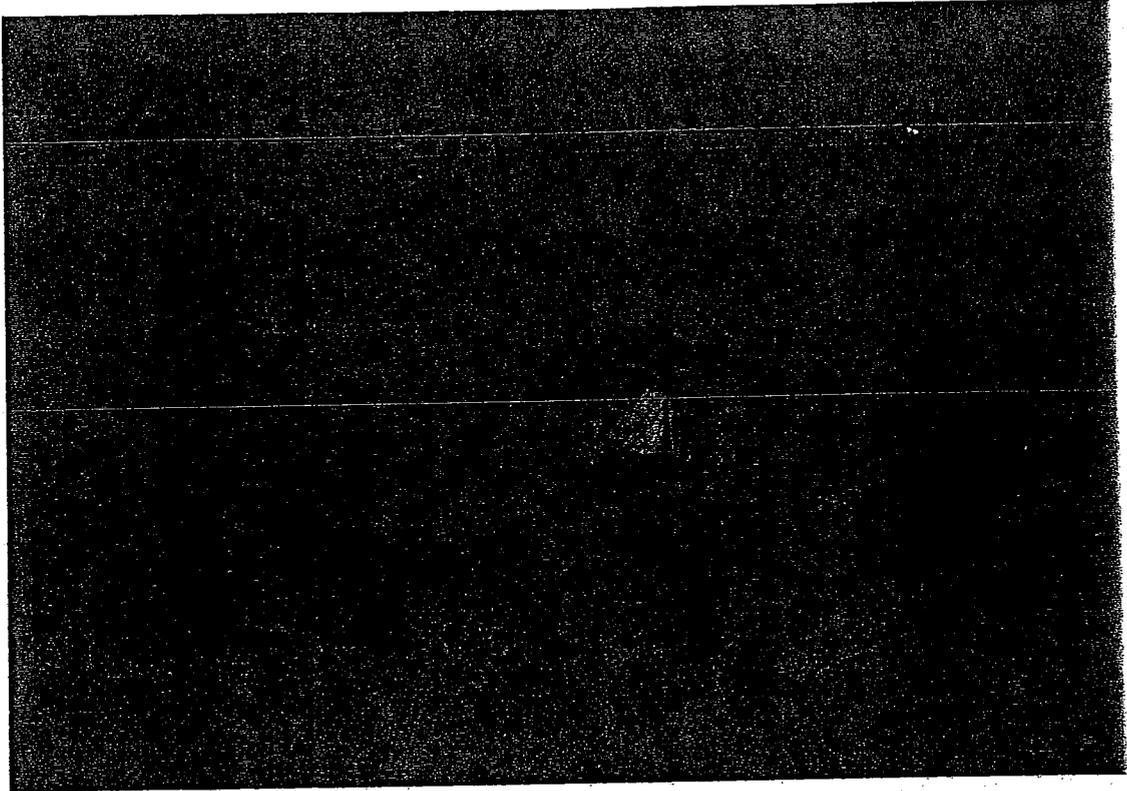


Exhibit 6

STROOCK

JOEL COHEN
DIRECT DIAL: 212-806-5644
DIRECT FAX: 212-806-2644
JCOHEN@STROOCK.COM

DANIELLE ALFONZO WALSMAN
DIRECT DIAL: 212-806-8607
DIRECT FAX: 212-806-2607
DWALSMAN@STROOCK.COM

May 18, 2009

BY EMAIL AND REGULAR MAIL

Mr. Leo Wise
Staff Director & Chief Counsel
Office of Congressional Ethics
United States House of Representatives
1017 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Request for Information, Review No. 09-2567

Dear Mr. Wise:

In response to your request for our clients' voluntary cooperation regarding your office's questions pertaining to the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (the "Conference"), we submit the following responses. Based upon our review of the questions and our multiple conversations with your office, we believe that these responses contain the information that you are seeking. As with our previous production, to the extent that the Freedom of Information Act is applicable to any submissions made to the Office of Congressional Ethics, our clients hereby request that the information provided be treated confidentially.

The Host country participated in the Conference as follows: (1) developed local Host Committees to facilitate local planning, (2) helped to negotiate the rate with the hotel, (3) assisted in developing the theme of the Conference, (4) assisted in identifying local speakers, including the Leader of Government, (5) assisted in local publicity, (6) provided local entertainment, including a school choir and cultural items, (7) arranged Host Country Evening on Friday, November 8 (the group was transported to another property for refreshments and entertainment), (8) helped with local transportation for some Carib News employees and helped arrange accommodations for some guests (not paying for such accommodations), (9) participated

09-2567 0079

Leo Wise, Esq.
May 18, 2009
Page 2

as event Speakers, and (10) issued invitations to attend to specially invited guests. The Host Country provided no funds towards the cost of the Conference.

The cost for members of the public to attend the conference for the four days and three nights was \$840.00 for double occupancy or \$1085.00 for single occupancy. The cost of attendance covered room accommodations, meals, and admission to the Conference presentations.

The attending Members of Congress participated in sessions relevant to their Committee assignments in Congress and demonstrated interest in a particular subject matter. For example, Congressman Bennie Thompson spoke at presentations on Hemispheric Security and Immigration/ Deportees, Congresswoman Donna Christensen spoke at a Town Hall Forum on Health, and Congressman Charles Rangel spoke at presentations on Haiti and the Caribbean, and the current crises facing them. In addition, all of the Members of Congress participated in a session with the local Ministers of Government to discuss issues of interest to the Caribbean region. Though correspondence with the Members of Congress indicated that a memo of the Closed Door Session would be distributed after the Conference, no such memo was ever drafted or distributed.

The total cost of the Conference approached \$300,000. These costs included direct expenses such as travel, event planner fees, local staffing, and hotel payments, as well as Carib News operating expenses for the purpose of the preparation and implementation of the Conference. The Conference costs were paid using (1) registration fees by the attending guests, (2) contributions from corporate participants, some to Carib News and others to Carib News Foundation, and (3) general funds of Carib News. Each of three sources of funding was pooled together to pay the various expenses.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please do not hesitate to call.

Very truly yours,



Joel Cohen

and



Danielle Alfonzo Walsman

09-2567 0080

Exhibit 7

AKIN GUMP

SEATTLE WASHINGTON

1100 3rd Avenue, Suite 1900

STEVEN R. ROSS
202.887.4343/fax: 202.887.4288
sross@akingump.com

March 31, 2009

Mr. Leo J. Wise
Staff Director and Chief Counsel
Office of Congressional Ethics
1017 Longworth Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Re: Citigroup, Inc. Production

Dear Leo:

On behalf of our client, Citigroup Inc., we are providing you with two documents in response to your oral request of March 17, 2009. Please find a copy of a solicitation letter to support the 2008 Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, dated April 4, 2008, from Carib News Foundation to our client. In addition, please find a copy of both the front and back of check number 5006611264, dated June 13, 2008, payable to Carib News Inc. in the amount of \$75,000.00. A search of our client's records has not uncovered any evidence of a receipt being provided for the above-mentioned check. We will produce this document should it be identified.

The documents we are producing today are confidential and proprietary in nature, and have been marked accordingly. We ask that these documents be kept confidential by your Office and your staff. Notwithstanding our request that these documents be kept confidential, due to their sensitivity, we ask that your office or staff provide us with notice and an opportunity to be heard before disclosure of any information from these documents to any third parties.

In addition, we are providing you with an original signed document of Michael Flanigan dated March 23, 2009, acknowledging the False Statements Act.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Ross

09-2567 0082



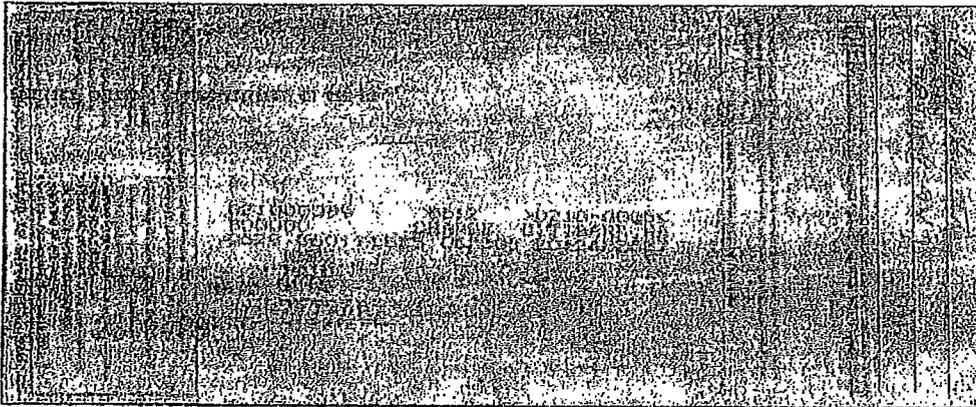
Citi Check Image Delivery

Print Close Window

Check Image Enquiry Results

Account #	Check #	Amount	Paid Date
00000038853877	5006611264	\$75,000.00	06/24/2008

<p>CITIGROUP BUSINESS SERVICES PAYMENT SERVICES 3100 CITIBANK CENTER DR 600-1 TAMPA, FL 33610 CUSTOMER SERVICE (815) 601-1231</p>	62-20 311	No. 5800611264 Date: 16-JUN-2008 Vendor No. 285513
	<p>ORDER OF CARIB NEWS INC 550171835 07 062308 CHARGE 7 WEST 36TH STREET 6TH FLOOR NEW YORK NY 10010</p>	
<p>SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS</p>		
<p>CITIBANK DELAWARE, A SUBSIDIARY OF CITIGROUP ONE PENNS WY, NEWCASTLE, DE 19720</p>		
<p>⑈5006611264⑈ ⑆031100209⑆ 38853877⑈ ⑈0001500000⑈</p>		





Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991: Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

April 04, 2008

Mr. Eric Eve
Senior Vice President
Community Relations
Global Consumer Group
Citigroup Inc.
850 Third Avenue, 12th floor
New York, NY 10022

Dear Mr. Eve: *Eric*

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

Your support and that of CITI went a long way to make the Conference a success, and has fostered on-going growth in business achievements and impactful policy decisions. We appreciate your encouragement, your personal participation, and the very stature your presence brings to the Conference. We do get concrete results and expressed appreciation of new opportunities.

We can assure you that all the key stakeholders, Members of Congress, Heads and Ministers of Government, Elected Officials, Community and Business Leaders are all aware and appreciative of yours and CITI'S participation in this very important mission.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. We know of your interest to deepen the CITI local, regional and global connections, and I know the Conference can achieve that. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

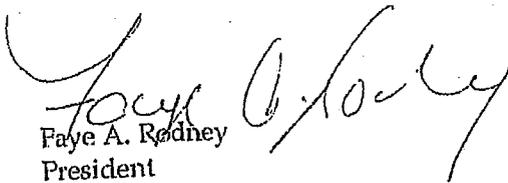
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We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail.
I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

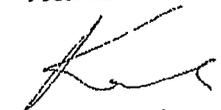
Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

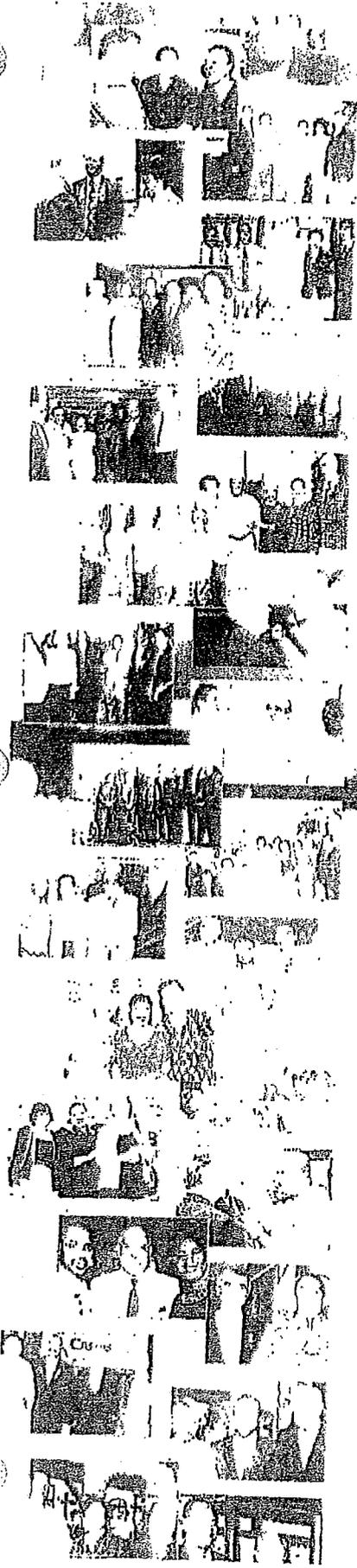
Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO



OPENING THE REGION

INVESTMENT & BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BUILDING THE GLOBAL NETWORK

**GOVERNMENT LEADERS - ELECTED OFFICIALS...
IMPACTING ECONOMIC POLICIES**

PARTNERSHIPS

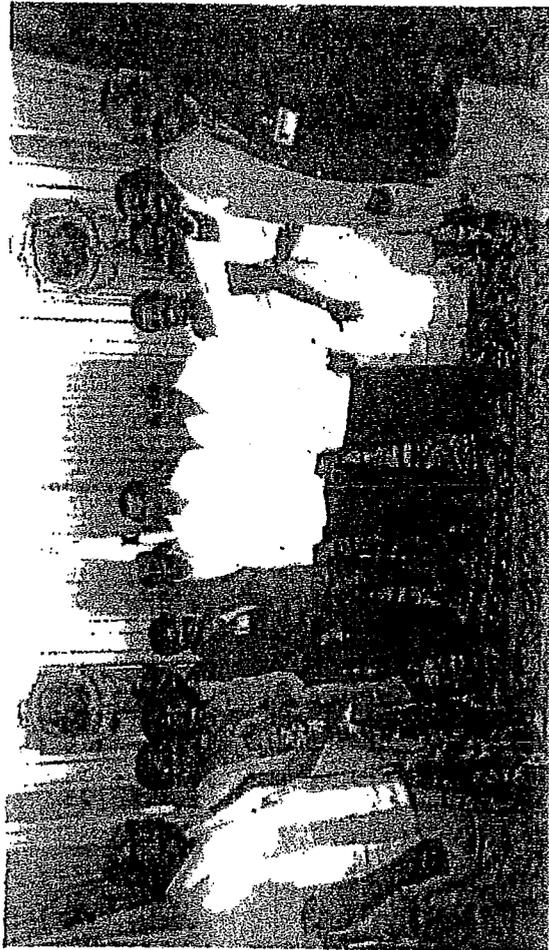
**CORPORATE EXECUTIVES - SEEKING
EXPANSION & GROWTH**

DOING BUSINESS TOGETHER



“IMPACTFUL”

EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF THE



THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CARIBBEAN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

ST. MAARTEN

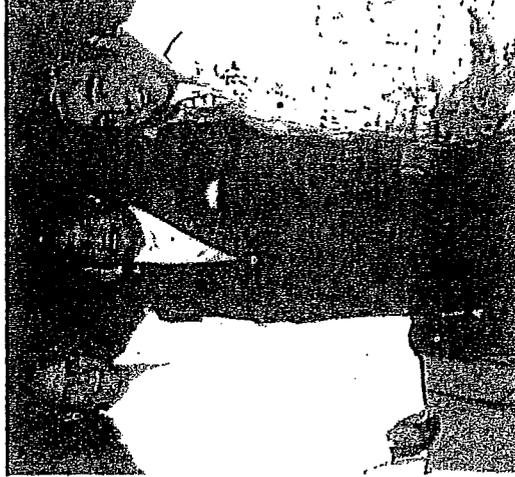
NOVEMBER 6 - 9, 2008

BUILDING KEY CONNECTIONS FOR GROWTH



THE MISSION

- ◆ To bring together businesses, community, and government leaders interested in understanding the economic opportunities in the Caribbean marketplace locally and in the Caribbean.
- ◆ To make a global community among Diverse Business entities and The Caribbean.
- ◆ To Link the emerging markets of the U.S and the Developing Economics of the Caribbean and Latin America.

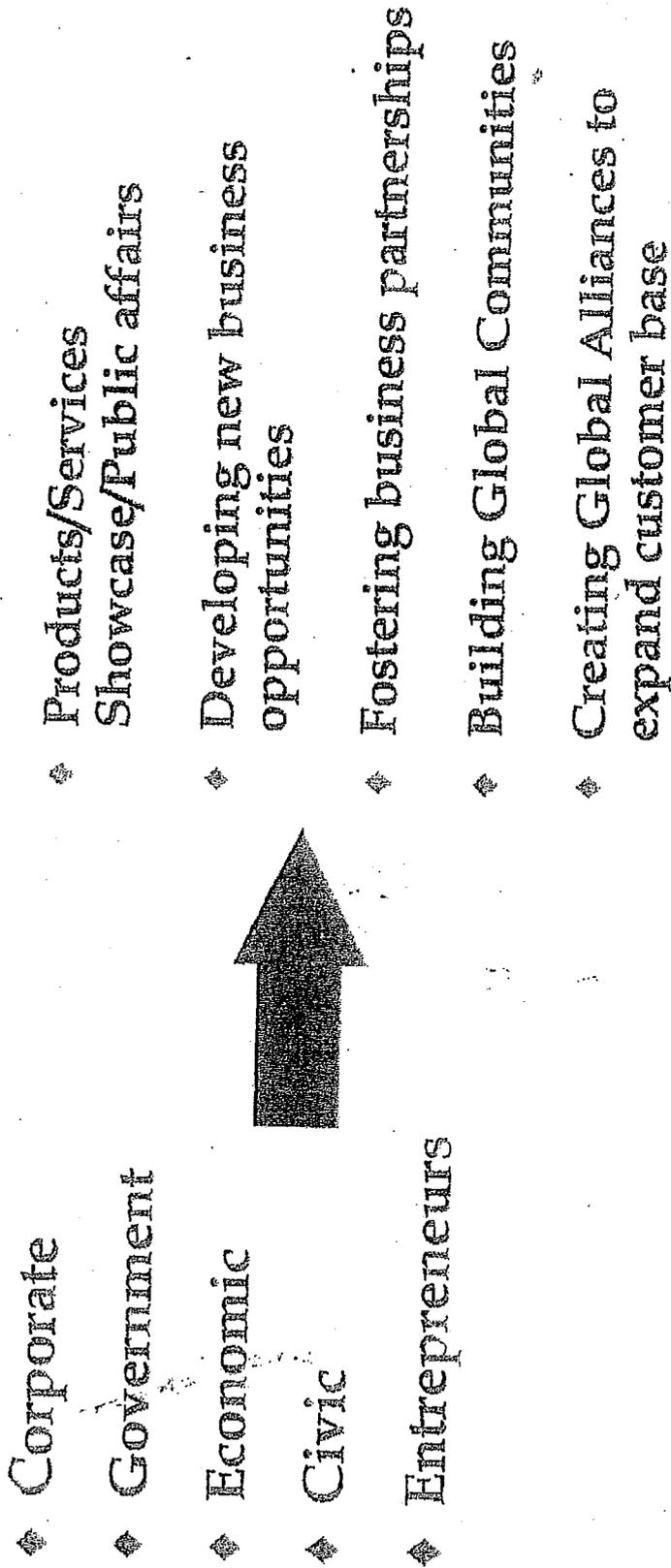


THE OPPORTUNITY

- ◆ **Marketing:** Understanding the market in the US and the Caribbean.
- ◆ **Business development:** Meeting potential customers and potential partners.
- ◆ **Strategic analysis:** Understanding the possibilities of emerging markets in the US and the Caribbean.
- ◆ **Corporate image:** Demonstrating your commitment to the Caribbean Community, and the program of diversity.
- ◆ **Community relations:** Establishing lasting relationships with key community leaders.
- ◆ **Government relations:** Meeting with and discussing topics of interest with significant elected officials from the US & the Caribbean.



STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS



THE LEGACY

- * Jamaica - 1996
- * Barbados - 1997
- * St. Lucia - 1998
- * St. Croix/USVI - 1999
- * Jamaica - 2000
- * Grenada - 2001
- * St. Maarten - 2002
- * The Bahamas-2003
- * St. Kitts-Nevis-2004
- * St. Thomas, USVI - 2005
- * Panama city, panama - 2006
- * Antigua & Barbuda - 2007

- * Building Consumers Awareness
- * Developing Working Alliances
- * Reaching Defined Target Markets
- * Making the Right Connections
- * Expanding Diverse Market Places
- * Successful Joint/Ventures
- * Successful Regional Investments



THE OVERVIEW

"Some companies have discovered that the Caribbean offers a great deal more than beautiful beaches and sunshine. They have recognized its tactical importance in this era of globalization. We are proud to provide a useful platform for companies that are seeking to sharpen their international competitiveness.

For the past twelve years, the Annual Multinational Business Conference has been creating links between the Caribbean, Central America and the U.S. Usually, during four days of workshops, luncheons and dinners, Caribbean Political Heads of State and Ministers of Government, Members of the Congressional Black Caucus, Local and Regional Politicians, business persons and influential individuals from the U.S. and the Caribbean discuss, interact and network around issues of mutual concern. Relationships are built and business deals are made.

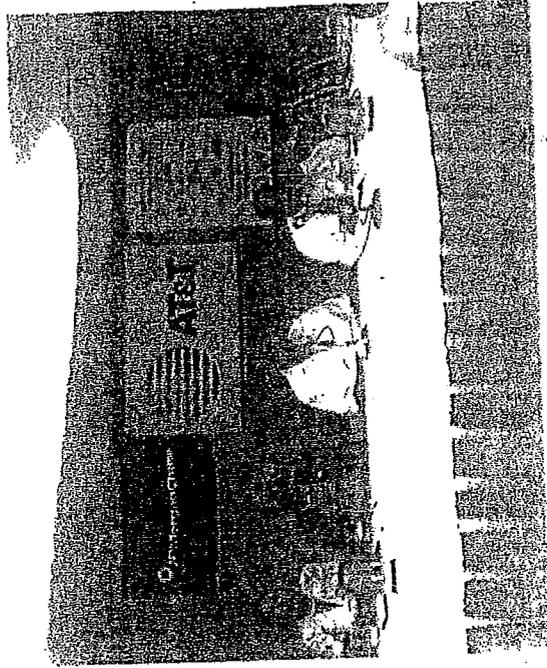
We hope that in 2008 you will join us"



PARTICIPATION

Platinum LEVEL - \$75,000

- ❖ Keynote Speaker at Main Event
- ❖ Sponsor Private VIP Reception and specially arranged forum
- ❖ Special Awards Presentation
- ❖ Display, Exhibition and signage
- ❖ Area of Conference - Reserved for exclusive sponsorship
- ❖ Full page Ad in program
- ❖ Air Transportation for 2 people
- ❖ Accommodations: One Suite and One Standard Room
- ❖ Included in all printed materials
- ❖ Included in Internet promotion
- ❖ Display company logo and link to our website
- ❖ Sponsor of a Gala Event
- ❖ Sponsor and Participate in a workshop
- ❖ Representative listed in program with bio and photo



PARTICIPATION

GOLD LEVEL - \$50,000

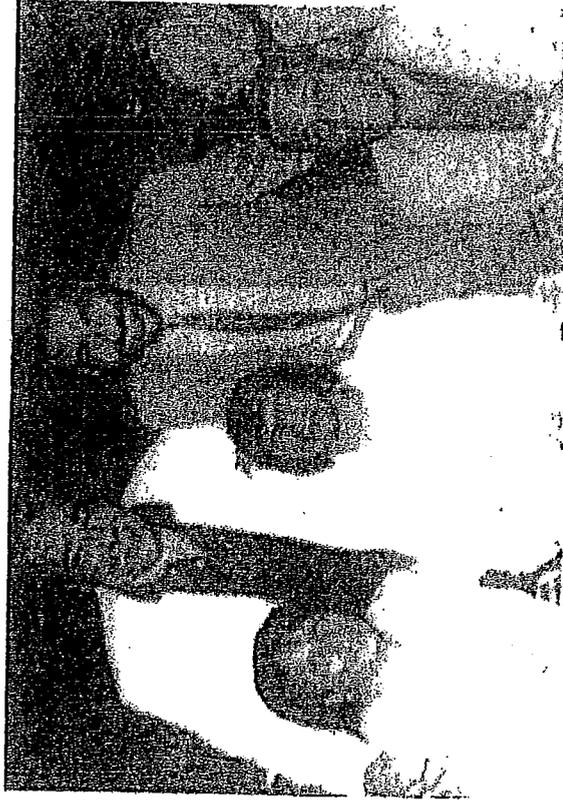
- ✦ Sponsor a Workshop
- ✦ Sponsor a Gala Event
- ✦ Display, Exhibition and signage
- ✦ Included in all Printed Material
- ✦ Included in all Internet Promotion
- ✦ Display of Company Logo and Link to Our Website
- ✦ Full Page Ad in Program
- ✦ Representation in the Brochure
- ✦ Air Transportation & room accommodations for 1



PARTICIPATION

SILVER LEVEL - \$25,000

- ◆ Sponsor & Participate in a Workshop
- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in all printed materials
- ◆ Included in Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Sponsor an event i.e. breakfast, lunch or dinner
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in program with bio & photos
- ◆ Representatives listed in brochure



PARTICIPATION

SUPPORTER

\$15,000

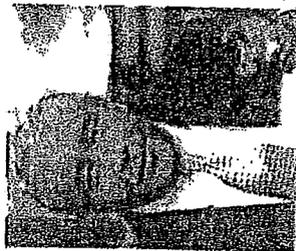
- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in all printed materials
- ◆ Included in Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in brochure
- ◆ Representatives listed in program with bio & photo

\$10,000

- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in some printed materials
- ◆ Included in some Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and 1/2 page in recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in program



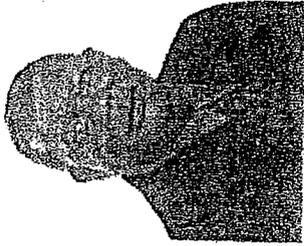
Government Participation



"This Conference is keeping us informed. There would never have been a banana problem had we (CBC) known about the issue before it went to the WTO."
Congressman Charles Rangel

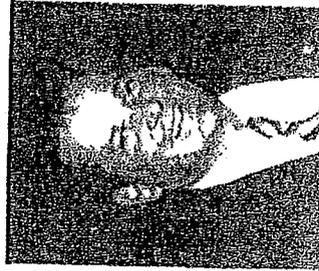


"The conference is central to the promotion of our mutual interests, in the U.S. in general, New York City in particular, and the Caribbean. It is essential for all of us to work together to spur economic growth and social expansion at home and in our neighborhoods."
William Thompson, Comptroller, New York City



"The Conference in Antigua with Members of the U.S. Congress was very important and extremely vital to both the U.S. and Caribbean interests. It highlighted the need for the Caribbean to pay greater attention to the role of Congress in the formulation of U.S. policy".

*Hon. Baldwin Spencer
Prime Minister of Antigua*

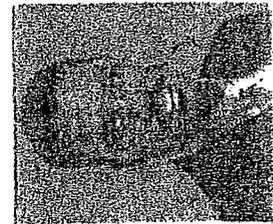


"The results of the Conference went far beyond our expectations. The process of bringing families together, of sharing a vision for our countries, couldn't have been scripted. The sessions brought out ideas, options and other benefits which should be long lasting".

Juan Carlos Navarro, Mayor, Panama City, Republic of Panama



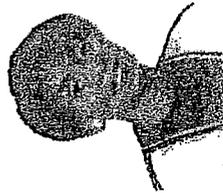
CORPORATE PARTICIPANTS



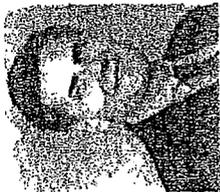
Eric Eve - SVP Community Relations, CITIGROUP. "The time is ripe for Caribbean nations to come together and get on "the road," to articulate the strength of their economies and stability of their business climates. The Conference is a great place to start to open clear lines of communication between the private and public sectors of the Caribbean and the U.S."



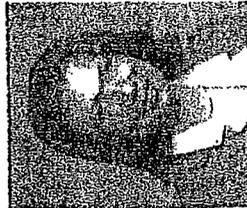
Marilyn Joinson, VP Market Development, IBM Corporation - "IBM and its partner ENI Enterprise Network, through its presentation at the Conference, is taking the audience up through levels of technology, understanding the application of E-commerce. This conference makes a difference in the lives of the attendees."



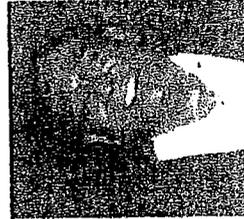
Karen Boykin-Iowns, Senior Director of Public Affairs- "The conference provides an ideal opportunity for Pfizer - it demonstrates its commitment to health forums internationally, but also to network with key decision makers. Collaboration is necessary between the Caribbean to make improvements and adjustments to healthcare and its delivery."



Edward J. Goldberg, SVP Government & Consumer Affairs, MACY'S - "We have whole files of opportunities to build business partnerships in the current corporate environment. The conference is conducive to exploring new areas of business, and we have taken advantage of this to both the region and MACY's benefit."

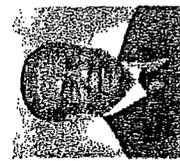


Marie Long, VP Constituency Relations, AT&T Foundation - "As many of you know, AT&T has changed in the last 5 years. Its growth, dynamism and change have created what some of us call the new AT&T. The real and driving force behind our success as a corporate entity is the culture of inclusion and collaboration. We recognize the great work being done at the conference to improve business and personal lives, exchange ideas, and assist alternative strategies that could lead to technology transfer and to growth."



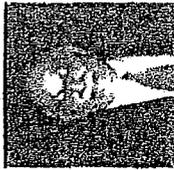
Javier Evans, FVP Human Resources, HSBC Bank - "We provide financial services to a vast array of businesses and individuals, and this gives us a unique perspective on different cultures and ways of doing business. We want to engage our partners in mutually beneficial relationships within our communities and that is why we seize the opportunity to link with CARIB NEWS and the Conference. It is a tremendous value to us."

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES



Ambassador Audrey Young

"If only the sons and daughters of Africa will remember from whence they came, then our roots should be a constant reminder of who we are and where our countries can go with our input. This is why the Carib News Conference is so important and that is why I support it."



Hon. Percy Sifton

"We badly needed a forum to address the need of us working together. This conference is an excellent idea and we should have been doing this long ago."



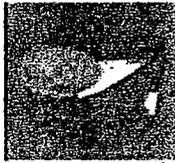
Hazel N. Dukes, President, New York State NAACP

"The conferences, presenters and participants have been extraordinary. I have gained tremendous knowledge on the Caribbean Diaspora. I continue to promote and foster relationships with communities here and at home"



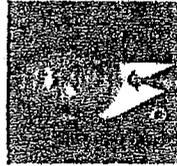
Harry Belafonte, Entertainer

"The Conference is like a table set with a feast of great ideas provided by some of the best minds. The table is set - it is for us to partake"



David Dinkins, Former Mayor of New York City

"Education is the very key for the development of our people. I have always held that position; that is why I am so pleased to participate in the Education Forum at the Conference. There is an eagerness on the part of the audience to know more about our system. The collaborative effort of CARIB NEWS and the Conference wins my support".



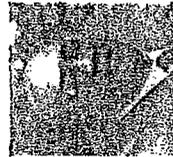
Roy Hastick, President/CEO Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce

"The work of the Conference is legendary in the Caribbean and the U.S. Where else do you find this level of leadership from all sectors coming together to advance doing business. It is the most effective way of building a Global Network".



Susan Taylor, Editor Emeritus, Essence Magazine

"It is always so wonderful to experience the drive, enthusiasm and determination of the Conference participants. It says something wonderful is happening and we all need to tap into it. It provides such outstanding opportunities to connect with real people who can make things happen".

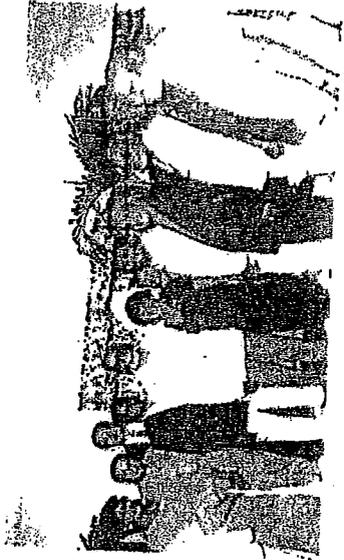
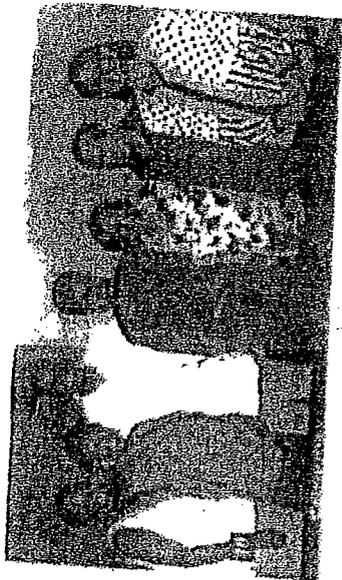


Lloyd Williams, President/CEO Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce

"I have always advocated cross-border business opportunities for the Chamber members, and that is why for the entire twelve years of the conference, the Chamber has made it a priority event. Our members have reaped the benefits and have also made great contributions".



INVEST IN SUCCESS



**A WEEK-END THAT CHANGES
LIVES**

'EXPERIENCE THE POWER'



Exhibit 8

Board
David Skaggs, Chair Porter Goss, Co-Chair
Yvonne Burke Jay Eagen
Karan English William Frenzel
Allison Hayward Abner Mikva



Leo J. Wise, Staff Director & Chief Counsel
1017 Longworth House Office Building
(202) 225-9739
(202) 226-0997 fax
email address: oce@mail.house.gov
website address: oce.house.gov

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

Mr. Frank Weber
Internal Revenue Service
Freedom of Information Reading Room
1111 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20224

March 31, 2009

Dear Mr. Weber,

Thank you for talking with me this afternoon and for offering to help me with this request. I need to know if Carib News Charities filed a 990-PF for tax years 2006, 2007, and 2008 (I have included tax year 2008 in the event that the foundation filed before the filing deadline). I understand that the organization is not required to file if it did not receive donations in excess of \$25,000. If the foundation has filed a 990-PF for 2006, 2007, or 2008, we would like to have a copy of the tax form(s). In the event that it takes several days, weeks, or months to receive the requested copies, it would be helpful to have an answer to the question whether the organization has filed and for what year(s) tax form(s) exist.

It is our understanding that the organization also does business as Carib News Foundation; however, Carib News Foundation is not found in Publication 78.

My telephone number is 202-225-9739 and my email is Elizabeth.horton@mail.house.gov. Thank you again for your help with this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Horton".

Elizabeth Horton

Request for Public Inspection or Copy of Exempt or Political Organization IRS Form

OMB No. 1545-0495

▶ Type or print clearly. Request may be rejected if the form is incomplete or illegible.



TIP You may not have to complete Form 4506-A to get the copies you need.

- **Internet.** Form 8871, Political Organization Notice of Section 527 Status, and Form 8872, Political Organization Report of Contributions and Expenditures, are available for inspection and printing from the Internet. The website address for both forms is www.irs.gov/polorgs.
- **Public disclosure by the organization.** Exempt or political organizations must make their returns, reports, notices, and exempt applications available for public inspection. You can visit the organization to inspect the material instead of requesting it from the IRS. The organization may be able to mail the copies to you.

1 Exempt or political organization. If a multiple request, please attach list of names, forms, and tax years.

Name CARIB NEWS CHARITIES	Employer identification number (if known) 13 : 3632050
Address 7 WEST 36th STREET, FLOOR 8	
City or town, state, and ZIP code NEW YORK, NY 10018	

2 Requester

Name OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS	Contact person ELIZABETH HORTON
Address 1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING	
City or town, state, and ZIP code WASHINGTON, DC 20515	
Date 3/31/09	

- 3 Category of requester:** Commercial user Non-commercial scientific institution
 You must check a box. Educational institution Media All others

4 Reason for request. All requesters except for commercial users must provide an explanation of how the records will be used to avoid being charged the commercial rate. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

**TO CONFIRM WHETHER FOUNDATION RECEIVED FUNDING IN
 TAX YEARS 2006, 2007, 2008**

Lines 5-9. For each applicable form, check the box(es) for the item(s) you are requesting. You may request more than one form. For each form requested, check either the copy, inspection, or CD/DVD box and enter the specific tax year(s), as indicated. If ordering a partial set on CD/DVD, indicate the format, state(s), and month(s) requested.

5 Form 990, Form 990-EZ CD/DVD Format: Alchemy Raw
 Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: _____; _____; _____
 State(s): _____; _____; _____
 Months: _____; _____; _____

6 Form 990-PF CD/DVD Format: Alchemy Raw
 Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: **2006, 2007, 2008 (if filed)**
 State(s): _____; _____; _____
 Months: _____; _____; _____

7 Form 990-T (501(c)(3) organizations filed after 8/17/2006) CD/DVD Format: Alchemy Raw
 Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: _____; _____; _____
 State(s): _____; _____; _____
 Months: _____; _____; _____

8 Form 5227 Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: _____; _____; _____

9 Form 1023, 1024 or Determination Letter Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: _____; _____; _____

IRS Use Only

The form requested above was inspected by (name of requester)	IRS office where inspection was made
Signature of employee present at inspection	Date

OGDEN UT 84201-0058

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
ATTN: ELIZABETH HORTON
1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515

CUT OUT AND RETURN THE VOUCHER AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE IF YOU ARE MAKING A PAYMENT,
EVEN IF YOU ALSO HAVE AN INQUIRY.

The IRS address must appear in the window.

Use for payments

BODCD-TE

0412606945

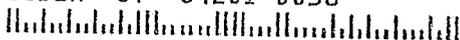
Letter Number: LTR3983C
Letter Date : 2009-04-17
Tax Period : 000000



133632050

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

OGDEN UT 84201-0058



OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
ATTN: ELIZABETH HORTON
1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515

OGDEN UT 84201-0058

In reply refer to: 0412606945
Apr. 17, 2009 LTR 3983C E1
13-3632050 000000 00 000
00027842
BODC: TE

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
ATTN: ELIZABETH HORTON
1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515

Taxpayer Identification Number: 13-3632050
Organization: Carib News Charities, Inc.

Form(s): 990PF

Tax Period(s): May 31, 2006 May 31, 2007
May 31, 2008

Dear Requester:

We received your Mar. 31, 2009, request for a copy of the Form(s) 990PF relating to the organization(s) identified above. Enclosed is a copy of the form(s) you requested. We are unable to provide a copy of the form(s) requested for the following tax period(s):

May 31, 2006

We regret that we can not provide a photocopy of return(s) for the organization(s) and year(s) you requested. There are a variety of reasons why these returns are not available, for example:

- the organization may not be required to file the requested return because its gross receipts are \$25,000 or less.
- the organization may be included in a group ruling and the parent may have filed a group return.
- the organization may have received an extension of time to file.
- processing of the organization's return may not be complete.
- return(s) are destroyed after a certain number of tax years.
- the organization may not be required to file.

If you have any questions, please write us at the address shown at the top of the first page of this letter. Or, you may call us toll free at 1-877-829-5500.

Whenever you write, please include this letter and, in the spaces below, give us your telephone number with the hours we can reach you. Please keep a copy of this letter for your records.

Telephone Number () _____ Hours _____

Form **990-PF**

**Return of Private Foundation
or Section 4947(a)(1) Nonexempt Charitable Trust
Treated as a Private Foundation**

OMB No 1545-0052

2005

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Note: The organization may be able to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements

For calendar year 2005, or tax year beginning June 1, 2005, and ending May 31, 20 06

G Check all that apply. Initial return Final return Amended return Address change Name change

Use the IRS label. Otherwise, print or type. See Specific Instructions.	Name of organization Carib News Charities Inc		A Employer identification number 13:3632050
	Number and street (or P O box number if mail is not delivered to street address)	Room/suite	B Telephone number (see page 10 of the instructions)
	City or town, state, and ZIP code New York, NY 10018		
H Check type of organization: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Section 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation <input type="checkbox"/> Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust <input type="checkbox"/> Other taxable private foundation		C If exemption application is pending, check here <input type="checkbox"/> D 1. Foreign organizations, check here <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Foreign organizations meeting the 85% test, check here and attach computation <input type="checkbox"/> E If private foundation status was terminated under section 507(b)(1)(A), check here <input type="checkbox"/> F If the foundation is in a 60-month termination under section 507(b)(1)(B), check here <input type="checkbox"/>	
I Fair market value of all assets at end of year (from Part II, col. (c), line 16) \blacktriangleright \$		J Accounting method: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ (Part I, column (d) must be on cash basis)	

Part I Analysis of Revenue and Expenses (The total of amounts in columns (b), (c), and (d) may not necessarily equal the amounts in column (a) (see page 11 of the instructions))		(e) Revenue and expenses per books	(b) Net investment income	(c) Adjusted net income	(d) Disbursements for charitable purposes (cash basis only)
Revenue	1 Contributions, gifts, grants, etc., received (attach schedule)				
	2 Check <input type="checkbox"/> if the foundation is not required to attach Sch B				
	3 Interest on savings and temporary cash investments				
	4 Dividends and interest from securities				
	5a Gross rents				
	b Net rental income or (loss)				
	6a Net gain or (loss) from sale of assets not on line 10				
	b Gross sales price for all assets on line 6a				
	7 Capital gain net income (from Part IV, line 2)				
	8 Net short-term capital gain				
	9 Income modifications				
	10a Gross sales less returns and allowances				
b Less: Cost of goods sold					
c Gross profit or (loss) (attach schedule)					
11 Other income (attach schedule)					
12 Total. Add lines 1 through 11					
Operating and Administrative Expenses	13 Compensation of officers, directors, trustees, etc				
	14 Other employee salaries and wages				
	15 Pension plans, employee benefits				
	16a Legal fees (attach schedule)				
	b Accounting fees (attach schedule)				
	c Other professional fees (attach schedule)				
	17 Interest				
	18 Taxes (attach schedule) (see page 14 of the instructions)				
	19 Depreciation (attach schedule) and depletion				
	20 Occupancy				
	21 Travel, conferences, and meetings				
	22 Printing and publications				
	23 Other expenses (attach schedule)				
	24 Total operating and administrative expenses. Add lines 13 through 23				
	25 Contributions, gifts, grants paid				
26 Total expenses and disbursements. Add lines 24 and 25					
27 Subtract line 26 from line 12:					
a Excess of revenue over expenses and disbursements					
b Net investment income (if negative, enter -0-)					
c Adjusted net income (if negative, enter -0-)					

RECEIVED IN CORR
IRS - OSC - 645

AUG 27 2007

OGDEN, UTAH

09-2567 0107

For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions.

Cat No 11289X

Form 990-PF (2005)

61,13 12

Process as orig

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SCANNED JAN 15 2008

Part II Balance Sheets		Attached schedules and amounts in the description column should be for end-of-year amounts only (See instructions)		
		Beginning of year	End of year	
		(a) Book Value	(b) Book Value	(c) Fair Market Value
Assets	1 Cash—non-interest-bearing	0		0
	2 Savings and temporary cash investments			
	3 Accounts receivable ▶			
	Less: allowance for doubtful accounts ▶			
	4 Pledges receivable ▶			
	Less: allowance for doubtful accounts ▶			
	5 Grants receivable			
	6 Receivables due from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons (attach schedule) (see page 15 of the instructions)			
	7 Other notes and loans receivable (attach schedule) ▶			
	Less allowance for doubtful accounts ▶			
	8 Inventories for sale or use			
	9 Prepaid expenses and deferred charges			
	10a Investments—U S and state government obligations (attach schedule)			
	b Investments—corporate stock (attach schedule)			
	c Investments—corporate bonds (attach schedule)			
	11 Investments—land, buildings, and equipment basis ▶			
Less accumulated depreciation (attach schedule) ▶				
12 Investments—mortgage loans				
13 Investments—other (attach schedule)				
14 Land, buildings, and equipment basis ▶				
Less accumulated depreciation (attach schedule) ▶				
15 Other assets (describe ▶)				
16 Total assets (to be completed by all filers—see page 16 of the instructions Also, see page 1, item I)	6972			
Liabilities	17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses	0	0	
	18 Grants payable			
	19 Deferred revenue			
	20 Loans from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons			
	21 Mortgages and other notes payable (attach schedule)			
	22 Other liabilities (describe ▶)			
23 Total liabilities (add lines 17 through 22)				
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>			
	and complete lines 24 through 26 and lines 30 and 31.			
	24 Unrestricted			
	25 Temporarily restricted			
	26 Permanently restricted			
	Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>			
	and complete lines 27 through 31.			
	27 Capital stock, trust principal, or current funds			
28 Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, bldg., and equipment fund				
29 Retained earnings, accumulated income, endowment, or other funds				
30 Total net assets or fund balances (see page 17 of the instructions)	0	0		
31 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances (see page 17 of the instructions)	0	0		

09-2567 0108

Part III Analysis of Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances		
1 Total net assets or fund balances at beginning of year—Part II, column (a), line 30 (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	1	0
2 Enter amount from Part I, line 27a	2	
3 Other increases not included in line 2 (itemize) ▶	3	
4 Add lines 1, 2, and 3	4	
5 Decreases not included in line 2 (itemize) ▶	5	
6 Total net assets or fund balances at end of year (line 4 minus line 5)—Part II, column (b), line 30	6	

Form 990-PF (2005)

Part IV Capital Gains and Losses for Tax on Investment Income

(a) List and describe the kind(s) of property sold (e.g., real estate, 2-story brick warehouse, or common stock, 200 shs MLC Co.)	(b) How acquired P—Purchase D—Donation	(c) Date acquired (mo., day, yr.)	(d) Date sold (mo., day, yr.)
1a			
b			
c			
d			
e			

(e) Gross sales price	(f) Depreciation allowed (or allowable)	(g) Cost or other basis plus expense of sale	(h) Gain or (loss) (e) plus (f) minus (g)
a			
b			
c			
d			
e			

Complete only for assets showing gain in column (h) and owned by the foundation on 12/31/69

(i) FMV as of 12/31/69	(j) Adjusted basis as of 12/31/69	(k) Excess of col (i) over col (j), if any	(l) Gains (Col (h) gain minus col (k), but not less than -0-) or Losses (from col (h))
a			
b			
c			
d			
e			

2 Capital gain net income or (net capital loss) { If gain, also enter in Part I, line 7; If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 7 }	2
3 Net short-term capital gain or (loss) as defined in sections 1222(5) and (6). If gain, also enter in Part I, line 8, column (c) (see pages 13 and 17 of the instructions). If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 8.	3

Part V Qualification Under Section 4940(e) for Reduced Tax on Net Investment Income

(For optional use by domestic private foundations subject to the section 4940(a) tax on net investment income.)
If section 4940(d)(2) applies, leave this part blank.

Was the organization liable for the section 4942 tax on the distributable amount of any year in the base period? Yes No
If "Yes," the organization does not qualify under section 4940(e). Do not complete this part.

1 Enter the appropriate amount in each column for each year; see page 18 of the instructions before making any entries.

(a) Base period years Calendar year (or tax year beginning in)	(b) Adjusted qualifying distributions	(c) Net value of noncharitable-use assets	(d) Distribution ratio (col (b) divided by col (c))
2004			
2003			
2002			
2001			
2000			

2 Total of line 1, column (d)	2
3 Average distribution ratio for the 5-year base period—divide the total on line 2 by 5, or by the number of years the foundation has been in existence if less than 5 years.	3
4 Enter the net value of noncharitable-use assets for 2005 from Part X, line 5.	4
5 Multiply line 4 by line 3	5
6 Enter 1% of net investment income (1% of Part I, line 27b)	6
7 Add lines 5 and 6	7
8 Enter qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 If line 8 is equal to or greater than line 7, check the box in Part VI, line 1b, and complete that part using a 1% tax rate. See the Part VI instructions on page 18.	8

09-2567 0109

Part VI Excise Tax Based on Investment Income (Section 4940(a), 4940(b), 4940(e), or 4948—see page 18 of the instructions)

1a	Exempt operating foundations described in section 4940(d)(2), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter "N/A" on line 1. Date of ruling letter: (attach copy of ruling letter if necessary—see instructions)			
b	Domestic organizations that meet the section 4940(e) requirements in Part V, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter 1% of Part I, line 27b.	1		
c	All other domestic organizations enter 2% of line 27b. Exempt foreign organizations enter 4% of Part I, line 12, col (b).			
2	Tax under section 511 (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-)	2		
3	Add lines 1 and 2.	3		
4	Subtitle A (income) tax (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-).	4		
5	Tax based on investment income. Subtract line 4 from line 3. If zero or less, enter -0-	5		
6	Credits/Payments.			
a	2005 estimated tax payments and 2004 overpayment credited to 2005	6a		
b	Exempt foreign organizations—tax withheld at source	6b		
c	Tax paid with application for extension of time to file (Form 8868)	6c		
d	Backup withholding erroneously withheld.	6d		
7	Total credits and payments. Add lines 6a through 6d.	7		
8	Enter any penalty for underpayment of estimated tax. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if Form 2220 is attached.	8		
9	Tax due. If the total of lines 5 and 8 is more than line 7, enter amount owed	9		
10	Overpayment. If line 7 is more than the total of lines 5 and 8, enter the amount overpaid.	10		
11	Enter the amount of line 10 to be Credited to 2006 estimated tax	11		

Part VII Statements Regarding Activities

	Yes	No
1a		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1b		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1c		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4a		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4b		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8b		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

09-2567 0110

Part VII-B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required

File Form 4720 if any item is checked in the "Yes" column, unless an exception applies.

1a During the year did the organization (either directly or indirectly):
(1) Engage in the sale or exchange, or leasing of property with a disqualified person?
(2) Borrow money from, lend money to, or otherwise extend credit to (or accept it from) a disqualified person?
(3) Furnish goods, services, or facilities to (or accept them from) a disqualified person?
(4) Pay compensation to, or pay or reimburse the expenses of, a disqualified person?
(5) Transfer any income or assets to a disqualified person (or make any of either available for the benefit or use of a disqualified person)?
(6) Agree to pay money or property to a government official?
b If any answer is "Yes" to 1a(1)-(6), did any of the acts fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4941(d)-3 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see page 20 of the instructions)?
c Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance check here
c Did the organization engage in a prior year in any of the acts described in 1a, other than excepted acts, that were not corrected before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2005?
2 Taxes on failure to distribute income (section 4942) (does not apply for years the organization was a private operating foundation defined in section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5)):
a At the end of tax year 2005, did the organization have any undistributed income (lines 6d and 6e, Part XIII) for tax year(s) beginning before 2005?
b Are there any years listed in 2a for which the organization is not applying the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) (relating to incorrect valuation of assets) to the year's undistributed income?
c If the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) are being applied to any of the years listed in 2a, list the years here.
3a Did the organization hold more than a 2% direct or indirect interest in any business enterprise at any time during the year?
b If "Yes," did it have excess business holdings in 2005 as a result of (1) any purchase by the organization or disqualified persons after May 26, 1969; (2) the lapse of the 5-year period (or longer period approved by the Commissioner under section 4943(c)(7)) to dispose of holdings acquired by gift or bequest; or (3) the lapse of the 10-, 15-, or 20-year first phase holding period?
4a Did the organization invest during the year any amount in a manner that would jeopardize its charitable purposes?
b Did the organization make any investment in a prior year (but after December 31, 1969) that could jeopardize its charitable purpose that had not been removed from jeopardy before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2005?
5a During the year did the organization pay or incur any amount to:
(1) Carry on propaganda, or otherwise attempt to influence legislation (section 4945(e))?
(2) Influence the outcome of any specific public election (see section 4955); or to carry on, directly or indirectly, any voter registration drive?
(3) Provide a grant to an individual for travel, study, or other similar purposes?
(4) Provide a grant to an organization other than a charitable, etc., organization described in section 509(a)(1), (2), or (3), or section 4940(d)(2)?
(5) Provide for any purpose other than religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals?
b If any answer is "Yes" to 5a(1)-(5), did any of the transactions fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4945 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see page 20 of the instructions)?
c Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance check here.
c If the answer is "Yes" to question 5a(4), does the organization claim exemption from the tax because it maintained expenditure responsibility for the grant?
6a Did the organization, during the year, receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?
b Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?
If you answered "Yes" to 6b, also file Form 8870

Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors

1 List all officers, directors, trustees, foundation managers and their compensation (see page 21 of the instructions).

(a) Name and address	(b) Title, and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				

2 Compensation of five highest-paid employees (other than those included on line 1—see page 21 of the instructions). If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$50,000	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
NONE				
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				

Total number of other employees paid over \$50,000. ▶

3 Five highest-paid independent contractors for professional services—(see page 21 of the instructions). If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each person paid more than \$50,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
NONE		
.....		
.....		
.....		
.....		
.....		

Total number of others receiving over \$50,000 for professional services ▶

Part IX-A Summary of Direct Charitable Activities

List the foundation's four largest direct charitable activities during the tax year. Include relevant statistical information such as the number of organizations and other beneficiaries served, conferences convened, research papers produced, etc.	Expenses
1. NONE	
2.	
3.	
4.	

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Form 990-PF (2005)

Page 7

Part IX-B Summary of Program-Related Investments (see page 22 of the instructions)

Describe the two largest program-related investments made by the foundation during the tax year on lines 1 and 2		Amount
1	
2	
All other program-related investments See page 22 of the instructions		
3	
Total. Add lines 1 through 3		

Part IX-C Minimum Investment Return (All domestic foundations must complete this part. Foreign foundations, see page 22 of the instructions.)

1	Fair market value of assets not used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes:	
a	Average monthly fair market value of securities	1a
b	Average of monthly cash balances	1b
c	Fair market value of all other assets (see page 23 of the instructions)	1c
d	Total (add lines 1a, b, and c)	1d
e	Reduction claimed for blockage or other factors reported on lines 1a and 1c (attach detailed explanation)	1e
2	Acquisition indebtedness applicable to line 1 assets	2
3	Subtract line 2 from line 1d	3
4	Cash deemed held for charitable activities. Enter 1 1/2% of line 3 (for greater amount, see page 23 of the instructions)	4
5	Net value of noncharitable-use assets. Subtract line 4 from line 3. Enter here and on Part V, line 4	5
6	Minimum investment return. Enter 5% of line 5	6

Part X Distributable Amount (see page 23 of the instructions) (Section 4942(j)(3) and (j)(5) private operating foundations and certain foreign organizations check here and do not complete this part.)

1	Minimum investment return from Part X, line 6	1
2a	Tax on investment income for 2005 from Part VI, line 5	2a
2b	Income tax for 2005. (This does not include the tax from Part VI.)	2b
2c	Add lines 2a and 2b	2c
3	Distributable amount before adjustments Subtract line 2c from line 1	3
4	Recoveries of amounts treated as qualifying distributions	4
5	Add lines 3 and 4	5
6	Deduction from distributable amount (see page 24 of the instructions)	6
7	Distributable amount as adjusted. Subtract line 6 from line 5. Enter here and on Part XIII, line 1	7

Part XII Qualifying Distributions (see page 24 of the instructions)

1	Amounts paid (including administrative expenses) to accomplish charitable, etc., purposes:	
a	Expenses, contributions, gifts, etc.—total from Part I, column (d), line 26	1a
b	Program-related investments—total from Part IX-B	1b
2	Amounts paid to acquire assets used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes	2
3	Amounts set aside for specific charitable projects that satisfy the:	
a	Suitability test (prior IRS approval required)	3a
b	Cash distribution test (attach the required schedule)	3b
4	Qualifying distributions. Add lines 1a through 3b. Enter here and on Part V, line 8, and Part XIII, line 4	4
5	Organizations that qualify under section 4940(e) for the reduced rate of tax on net investment income. Enter 1% of Part I, line 27b (see page 24 of the instructions)	5
6	Adjusted qualifying distributions. Subtract line 5 from line 4	6

Note: The amount on line 6 will be used in Part V, column (b), in subsequent years when calculating whether the foundation qualifies for the section 4940(e) reduction of tax in those years.

Form 990-PF (2005)

09-2567 0113

Part XIII Undistributed Income (see page 24 of the instructions)

	(a) Corpus	(b) Years prior to 2004	(c) 2004	(d) 2005
1 Distributable amount for 2005 from Part XI, line 7				
2 Undistributed income, if any, as of the end of 2004:				
a Enter amount for 2004 only				
b Total for prior years: 20____, 20____, 20____				
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2005:				
a From 2000				
b From 2001				
c From 2002				
d From 2003				
e From 2004				
f Total of lines 3a through e				
4 Qualifying distributions for 2005 from Part XII, line 4: ▶ \$ _____				
a Applied to 2004, but not more than line 2a				
b Applied to undistributed income of prior years (Election required—see page 25 of the instructions)				
c Treated as distributions out of corpus (Election required—see page 25 of the instructions)				
d Applied to 2005 distributable amount				
e Remaining amount distributed out of corpus				
5 Excess distributions carryover applied to 2005 (If an amount appears in column (d), the same amount must be shown in column (a).)				
6 Enter the net total of each column as indicated below:				
a Corpus. Add lines 3f, 4c, and 4e. Subtract line 5				
b Prior years' undistributed income. Subtract line 4b from line 2b				
c Enter the amount of prior years' undistributed income for which a notice of deficiency has been issued, or on which the section 4942(a) tax has been previously assessed				
d Subtract line 6c from line 6b. Taxable amount—see page 25 of the instructions				
e Undistributed income for 2004. Subtract line 4a from line 2a. Taxable amount—see page 25 of the instructions				
f Undistributed income for 2005. Subtract lines 4d and 5 from line 1. This amount must be distributed in 2006				
7 Amounts treated as distributions out of corpus to satisfy requirements imposed by section 170(b)(1)(E) or 4942(g)(3) (see page 25 of the instructions)				
8 Excess distributions carryover from 2000 not applied on line 5 or line 7 (see page 25 of the instructions)				
9 Excess distributions carryover to 2006. Subtract lines 7 and 8 from line 6a				
10 Analysis of line 9:				
a Excess from 2001				
b Excess from 2002				
c Excess from 2003				
d Excess from 2004				
e Excess from 2005				

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Part XIV Private Operating Foundations (see page 26 of the instructions and Part VII-A, question 9)

1a If the foundation has received a ruling or determination letter that it is a private operating foundation, and the ruling is effective for 2005, enter the date of the ruling _____

b Check box to indicate whether the organization is a private operating foundation described in section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5)

2a Enter the lesser of the adjusted net income from Part I or the minimum investment return from Part X for each year listed

	Pnor 3 years				(e) Total
	(a) 2005	(b) 2004	(c) 2003	(d) 2002	
b 85% of line 2a					
c Qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 for each year listed					
d Amounts included in line 2c not used directly for active conduct of exempt activities					
e Qualifying distributions made directly for active conduct of exempt activities Subtract line 2d from line 2c					
3 Complete 3a, b, or c for the alternative test relied upon.					
a "Assets" alternative test—enter:					
(1) Value of all assets					
(2) Value of assets qualifying under section 4942(j)(3)(B)(i)					
b "Endowment" alternative test—enter % of minimum investment return shown in Part X, line 6 for each year listed					
c "Support" alternative test—enter:					
(1) Total support other than gross investment income (interest, dividends, rents, payments on securities loans (section 512(a)(5)), or royalties)					
(2) Support from general public and 5 or more exempt organizations as provided in section 4942(j)(3)(B)(iii)					
(3) Largest amount of support from an exempt organization					
(4) Gross investment income					

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Part XV Supplementary Information (Complete this part only if the organization had \$5,000 or more in assets at any time during the year—see page 26 of the instructions.)

1 Information Regarding Foundation Managers:

a List any managers of the foundation who have contributed more than 2% of the total contributions received by the foundation before the close of any tax year (but only if they have contributed more than \$5,000). (See section 507(d)(2).)

b List any managers of the foundation who own 10% or more of the stock of a corporation (or an equally large portion of the ownership of a partnership or other entity) of which the foundation has a 10% or greater interest.

2 Information Regarding Contribution, Grant, Gift, Loan, Scholarship, etc., Programs:

Check here if the organization only makes contributions to preselected charitable organizations and does not accept unsolicited requests for funds. If the organization makes gifts, grants, etc. (see page 26 of the instructions) to individuals or organizations under other conditions, complete items 2a, b, c, and d.

a The name, address, and telephone number of the person to whom applications should be addressed: _____

b The form in which applications should be submitted and information and materials they should include: _____

c Any submission deadlines: _____

d Any restrictions or limitations on awards, such as by geographical areas, charitable fields, kinds of institutions, or other factors: _____

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Part XV Supplementary Information (continued)

3 Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment

Recipient	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution	Amount
<i>a</i> Paid during the year				
Total				3a
<i>b</i> Approved for future payment				
Total				3b

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Search for Charities, Online Version of Publication 78 Search Results

Organization

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Carib News Charities Inc.

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09-2567 0118.1



Deductibility Code

Publication 78 uses a coding system to identify each organization listed by type and limitation on deductibility of charitable contributions to the organization. The code(s) displayed depend(s) on the code for which the organization qualifies. In cases where an organization has multiple deductibility codes, only the definition for each applicable deductibility code is displayed.

Code	Meaning
4	A private foundation, generally with a 30% deductibility limitation.

Close

09-2567 0118.2

Exhibit 9

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative of IBM, Vice President Market Development, IBM
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: May 8, 2009
Location: IBM Offices, Washington, D.C.
Participants: Leo Wise
Beth Horton
Lisa Palluconi, Counsel for Government Programs for IBM
Adrienne G. Rhone, Director Governmental Programs

Summary: The Representative of IBM is the Vice President of Market Development for IBM. She was interviewed pursuant to Reviews 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. The Representative of IBM helped arrange IBM's participation at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008; she also participated at the event. We requested an interview with the Representative of IBM and she consented to an interview. The Representative of IBM made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. The Representative of IBM was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and she signed a written acknowledgement of the warning.
2. She attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008.
3. She attended the conference to extend IBM to areas that were not currently being served. She focuses on the Caribbean because of her division at IBM which is women and minorities. The Caribbean is an underdeveloped business unit for IBM.

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4. She first attended the conference in 2004, as a participant, to see if the conference would be a good fit for IBM to participate at as a sponsor.
5. IBM was an entry level sponsor in '05.
6. She dealt with Faye Rodney on conference matters.
7. After her attendance in '05, she received a thank you letter signed by the Rodneys that asked IBM to be a sponsor at the '06 conference.
8. IBM participated at the '05, '06, '07 and '08 conference.
9. The Rodneys continued their prior practice and sent a thank you letter with a request for sponsorship after the '07 conference for IBM to participate at the '08 conference.
10. The letter was sent to the Operations Executive and the decision to participate was decided as a team. Colin Ward, with ENI Systems, is one of IBM's business partners who also went to the conference.
11. The letter is the first communication regarding the conference.
12. After the letter is received, the team manager negotiates participation at the conference. Negotiations included timing of sessions (day/time). She requested Friday, right before or right after lunch, for the IBM session. It was important to have attendance by individuals interested in technology.
13. She also agreed to moderate the women's breakfast sponsored by Macy's.
14. The team manager would have worked with the Rodneys regarding the break-out sessions.
15. IBM controlled its own content for the session(s).
16. The first year IBM sponsored the conference, the sponsorship level was \$10,000. IBM sponsored the conference the following year at \$15,000, and in '08 the sponsorship went up to \$20,000 after IBM received a request from Faye Rodney for an increase. The Representative of IBM initially counter-offered \$18,000 but agreed to the \$20,000 at the urging of Ms. Rodney.
17. IBM has a methodical way of approving conference sponsorships. The letter from the Rodneys was received in July.

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18. She approved the check for the purchase order and released the check. Carib would have received the check in August or September.
19. After the check is released, she and the business partner collaborate on the content of session.
20. She and the business partner attended the conference.
21. She has only seen the Rodneys at the conference. She has been invited to other events but has not accepted the invitations.
22. She received a call from Mr. Rodney about the article on the conference.
23. She had no knowledge of the Foundation until this matter.
24. She understood Carib News to be the sponsor.
25. The \$20,000 level of sponsorship is low for IBM in general. However, it is worth the presence and branding for small the small business unit practice.
26. She thought IBM's sponsorship was of the conference, she did not know the Foundation existed until this issue arose. Her department does not give to non-profit organizations, only to businesses.
27. The only parameters placed on the money for the conference was with respect to time slots and length of the sessions.
28. She tells her team her preferences and the team works out the specifics with Carib.
29. She does not recall seeing a specific document that listed the various levels of sponsorship.
30. Carib News provides the framework for the conference. Then she typically tells Carib what she wants and what they will pay. She was aware from the signage that other companies were larger sponsors.
31. She arrived at the conference on Thursday and attended the opening reception. She attended a reception on Friday that was hosted by Citi and a breakout session.
32. She noticed names of entities on the agenda from the web that she knew were not at the conference.

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33. She noted that the agenda also listed her breakout session on Saturday which was inaccurate. Her session was on Friday, so she knew the agenda could not have been the final agenda.
34. She seemed to recall seeing the agenda that was submitted to Standards. She noted that the 12:00pm session was accurate, but that she did not believe that the breakout listed on Saturday was accurate.
35. She attended the Macy's breakfast on Saturday morning because it is a popular event. She noted who was on the breakfast panel and who was not (names were listed on agenda). Michelle Patterson did not speak, Burnice Johnson was not on the panel and she was not sure if she even attended the conference.
36. She saw several of the Members who attended the conference. She was on the same flight as Representative Payne. She spoke to Representative Rangel at the reception. Representative Kilpatrick was on a panel with her. And Representative Thompson road to an off-sight event with her. She was sure that she spoke to Delegate Christensen. And she spoke to Sheila Jackson Lee at the awards night.
37. The off-sight event was held at a separate hotel, it included local talent and a comedienne.
38. She stated that Members did not attend the breakout sessions.
39. She had a conversation with Rep. Thompson regarding the election.
40. She left the conference on Sunday morning by 7:00am.
41. She spoke with her team after the article regarding the conference came out.
42. She also called Mr. Rodney after she saw the article; she stated that he told her that there was an investigation and assured her that he had done all that he was supposed to do and that he wanted to keep her as a sponsor.
43. She understood sponsor to be financial sponsor of the conference. She assumed all of the companies whose logos appeared on the banner were sponsors. She assumed Carib News organized the conference.
44. She was not aware of how funding for the conference was handled. She assumed the payment from IBM went to pay for her breakout session and collateral expenses for the session.

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45. Her registration fee was part of the sponsorship. She paid for her room and all travel costs.
46. There were less than 300 people at the conference.
47. When she registered for the conference, she received a badge that allowed access to buffets during the meetings.
48. The registration fee for the conference in '05 was \$750.00.
49. She was not aware of the '08 registration fee.

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

5/8/08

For Office Use:

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 10

Susan A. Sullivan
Verizon Foundation
Director - Strategic Planning & Partnerships



Verizon Foundation
One Verizon Way
Bldg 6, 3rd Flr South
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

November 25, 2008

Mr. Karl B. Rodney
Chairman & CEO
Carib News Charities, Inc.
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

Dear Mr. Rodney:

On behalf of the Verizon Foundation, it is a pleasure to present the enclosed check for \$35,000.00 to Carib News Charities, Inc. in support of the 13th Annual Carib News Multi-National Business Conference - November 6-9, 2008.

Under the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, Verizon Communications must receive a written receipt from all organizations to which it makes a charitable contribution. Therefore, please complete and return the enclosed form acknowledging this gift within two weeks of receipt.

Verizon Foundation is delighted to support Carib News Charities, Inc. and we wish to thank you and the organization for your dedication and contribution to our communities.

Please recognize our contribution as coming from "Verizon Communications."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Sullivan".

SS/ah

Enclosures

cc: Patrick Gaston
Albert Browne

09-2567 0127

VZ-OCE 0001

INVOICE NUMBER	INVOICE DATE	DESCRIPTION	GROSS	DISCOUNT	NET AMOUNT
D0394421-00003064	11/17/2008	005-13TH ANNUAL MULTI-NATIONAL	35,000.00		35,000.00
Check No.	Check Date	Vendor No.	Handling Code	Total	
0002756	11/21/2008	0000011038	FN	\$35,000.00	0.00 \$35,000.00

PAGE 1 of 1

Questions? Call 916/357-3270 BU APCRP

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NEW YORK, New York 10018

\$ \$35,000.00

Catherine J. Webster

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VZ-OCE 0002

Acknowledgment of Charitable Contribution

IMPORTANT: Please acknowledge the enclosed charitable contribution by completing and returning this form. Donors cannot deduct contributions unless they are acknowledged in this manner and a failure to return this form in a timely manner may make you ineligible for future contributions by Verizon Foundation.

1. I hereby acknowledge the Verizon Foundation 2008 contribution of:
\$35,000.00
for 13th Annual Multi-National Business Conference - November 6-9, 2008.

(or describe property or services other than money received)

Received on (date):

Date of check: 11/21/08

2. Please indicate whether or not any goods or services were provided by your organization in consideration for this contribution (e.g., the value of food, beverage, ticket or entertainment at a fundraising event):
Yes _____ No _____

If YES, please describe what was provided and give a good faith estimate of the value to the goods or services, understanding that the amount of the contribution that is deductible as a charitable contribution is limited to the excess of money and the value of property contributed over the value of the goods and services provided by the charity.

Description:

Est. Value: \$

3. The information above is provided for the purpose of complying with IRS reporting requirements and is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that penalties may be imposed by the IRS on charities that fail to make the required disclosure or for making a disclosure that is inaccurate or incomplete.

Name:

Title:

Organization: Carib News Charities, Inc.

Organization Tax I.D.#: 133632050vz

Signature:

Date:

Please return to:

Anita Coleman-Hunt
Verizon Foundation One Verizon Way, VC63S427
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Telephone: 908-559-3516

Fax: 908-630-2660

09-2567 0129

VZ-OCE 0003

Acknowledgment of Charitable Contribution

IMPORTANT: Please acknowledge the enclosed charitable contribution by completing and returning this form. Donors cannot deduct contributions unless they are acknowledged in this manner and a failure to return this form in a timely manner may make you ineligible for future contributions by Verizon Foundation.

1. I hereby acknowledge the Verizon Foundation 2008 contribution of:
\$35,000.00
for 13th Annual Multi-National Business Conference - November 6-9, 2008.

(or describe property or services other than money received)

Received on (date): 11/26/08

Date of check: 11/21/08

2. Please indicate whether or not any goods or services were provided by your organization in consideration for this contribution (e.g., the value of food, beverage, ticket or entertainment at a fundraising event):
 Yes No

If YES, please describe what was provided and give a good faith estimate of the value to the goods or services, understanding that the amount of the contribution that is deductible as a charitable contribution is limited to the excess of money and the value of property contributed over the value of the goods and services provided by the charity.

Description:

Registration + Conference Meal Plan

Est. Value: \$ 1300.00

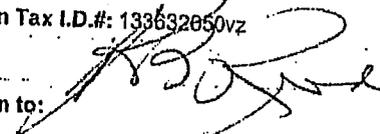
3. The information above is provided for the purpose of complying with IRS reporting requirements and is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that penalties may be imposed by the IRS on charities that fail to make the required disclosure or for making a disclosure that is inaccurate or incomplete.

Name: KARL B. RODNEY

Title: PUBLISHER / CEO

Organization: Carib News Charities, Inc.

Organization Tax I.D.#: 133632050vz

Signature: 

Date: 12/3/08

Please return to:

Anita Coleman-Hunt
Verizon Foundation One Verizon Way, VC63S427
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Telephone: 908-559-3516

Fax: 908-630-2660

09-2567 0130

VZ-OCE 0004

Exhibit 11

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: March 23, 2009
Location: Verizon Offices, Washington, DC
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy
Beth Horton
David Kass, Assistant General Counsel Compliance
James C. Wilson, Vice President and Associate General Counsel Compliance

Summary: Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation is the President and the Strategic Director for Philanthropy of the Verizon Foundation. He was interviewed pursuant to Reviews 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation participated at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008. We requested an interview with Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and he consented to an interview. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning, signed a written acknowledgement of the warning
2. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation is currently the President of the Verizon Foundation ("the Foundation") and Strategic Director for Philanthropy. His duties

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

involve budget planning and implementation and governance for the foundation.

Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation has significant decision-making authority over grants issued by the foundation. He approves all grants in excess of \$25,000 and all grants funded more than two years in a row. He has been with the foundation and acting as President for the past five years.

3. The Foundation is funded through a corpus donated by Verizon and through public donations under Verizon Reads, a program that is offered as part of customer billing statements. The Foundation approves approximately 2,900 grants (totaling 67 million) through a competitive loan application process. The Foundation's online loan application process has specific approval requirements, including a quarterly "impact report."
4. The Foundation funded the Carib News Foundation for the first time in 2008, the grant was issued to provide funding for the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference ("the Conference"). Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation approved the Carib News Foundation grant. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was the Foundation's contact person for the Conference. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation did not interact with Karl Rodney or anyone at Carib News regarding the Foundation's participation at the Conference. Both Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation attended the conference. Mr. Rodney invited Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation to speak at the Conference and subsequently applied for a grant from the Foundation.
5. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and Mr. Rodney are both members of the board of the Foundation for the University of the West Indies. The two men interacted at board meetings four times per year. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he may also have spoken to Mr. Rodney 1-2 other times prior to the Conference regarding how the Foundation could showcase its Thinkfinity program. He also stated that he may have spoken to Mr. Rodney once after receiving his letter of invitation for the Conference. He does not recall Mr. Rodney "pitching" the conference to him. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation would not have participated at the Conference unless he could speak on educational issues. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation believed the Conference would be a good opportunity to showcase the Foundation's Thinkfinity program.
6. Mr. Rodney was aware of the Foundation's educational work through his interaction with Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation at board meetings for the Foundation of the University of West Indies. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that while

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he had spoken with Mr. Rodney regarding the Thinkfinity program, he did not make any type of informal commitment to fund the Conference.

7. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation believed that there were three levels of sponsorship for the Conference, the highest being \$50,000 and the lowest being \$25,000. However, he does not recall seeing any specific document(s) setting out the different levels of sponsorship. He stated that he was not interested in sponsorship at the \$50,000 level but later decided on a \$35,000 grant donation. When asked what the Foundation received at the Conference for the \$35,000, Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated signage and visibility. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation often provides such support for conferences, including the NAACP conference and National Urban League Conference.
8. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was provided 3 venues at the Conference to speak about the Thinkfinity program. The Foundation believed participation at the Conference would provide exposure to English speaking Caribbean individuals who have connections to universities in New York.
9. The Foundation is required to issue grants only to 501(c)(3) entities. The Foundation could not make a donation to a corporation. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was somewhat familiar with the Carib News paper; he has been featured in the paper and Verizon has advertised in the paper. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was not aware of Carib News Charities until the entity applied for a grant. He believed Carib News Charities was the same entity as Carib News Foundation. He is not aware of any other work the Carib News Charities/Foundation is involved in other than the conference. Mr. Rodney did not talk about the Carib News Charities/Foundation at board meetings.
10. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation arrived at the Conference on Thursday afternoon and departed on Saturday morning. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he went to make his speech and promptly left the event. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation spoke 3 times on Friday; he was acknowledge at the welcome event on Friday morning and he participated in a demonstration on Thinkfinity in the afternoon. It is not clear from Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation's remarks what other time he spoke at the Conference. He was invited to speak on Saturday but he did not feel that an extra day was necessary.
11. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation recalled seeing and speaking to Congressman Rangel. The Congressman mentioned Alltel and told him to remind his CEO to keep in mind the needs of the minority community. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation

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stated that he had no other contact with Members at the Conference. He did not know Delegate Christenson, Congressman Thompson, Congressman Payne and was not sure whether he saw Congresswoman Kilpatrick (he was not sure who she is). He does recall that one lady stated that she would love to see the Thinkfinity program in her state. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was accompanied by Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation 90% of the time he was at the Conference; he was not aware of any contact between Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and any Members.

12. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation received an advance copy of the agenda for the conference. The copy indicated that the Foundation was scheduled for two days of activities. He requested that the Saturday meetings be canceled or moved to Friday. He had not seen the agenda that Mr. Rodney submitted to the Ethics Committee for travel approval. He stated that advance copies of the agenda were common, most organizations provided the same level of detail with other conferences. He believed that he had seen more than one copy of the agenda. The agendas that were sent to him focused on the Foundation's participation and not the entire conference.
13. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was asked if it was typical to have an agenda that listed speakers without identifying their employer/affiliations. He was not sure and didn't remember if the drafts he had seen included his title; he was more concerned with having a sense of what he would be doing at the Conference.
14. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney prior to the Conference to cancel the programs he was slated to speak at on Saturday (this was his 3rd call regarding the Conference – 1st call was regarding invitation, 2nd call was to discuss his participation, 3rd was to cancel Saturday programs). Mr. Rodney was receptive to Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation's request and the Saturday program was cancelled.
15. The Foundation paid all travel expenses for Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation. He did not see the check the Foundation issued for the Conference or the confirmation letter from Mr. Rodney. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation met with Mr. Rodney following the conference at a board meeting for the Foundation for the University of West Indies. He also had breakfast with Mr. Rodney at which time they briefly discussed the Conference. According to Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation, Mr. Rodney was upset over the New York Post article regarding the Conference. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Mr. Rodney felt the article was misleading and that he had done everything that he was supposed to do

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regarding receiving approval from the Ethics Committee. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he and Mr. Rodney did not spend much time speaking about the matter. He felt that Mr. Rodney wanted him to know that he was diligent about following rules. When asked if he knew what rules Mr. Rodney was speaking about, Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he did not know which rules he was referring to.

16. Prior to his work with the Foundation, Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was with Government Affairs with Verizon, his former position did not involve lobbying. His position involved Strategic Alliance, he was responsible for working with non-profits across the country. He dealt with policy issues regarding universal service. He did not interact with regulators.
17. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation met with Eric Eve with Citi 2-3 weeks prior to our interview, they were both attending a meeting with the head of the NAACP. He did not speak to Mr. Eve about the Conference although they did speak about scrutiny on Citi related to TARP funding. He has not had any contact with the Representative of Citi from Citi.

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: 3/23/09

For Office Use:

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 12

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: March 23, 2009
Location: Verizon Offices, Washington, DC
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy
Beth Horton
David Kass, Assistant General Counsel Compliance
James C. Wilson, Vice President and Associate General Counsel Compliance

Summary: Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation is the National Program Director for the Verizon Foundation and Vice President for Education & Technology for Verizon. He was interviewed pursuant to Reviews 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation helped arrange the Verizon Foundation's participation at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008; he also accompanied Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation to the event. We requested an interview with Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and he consented to an interview. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning, signed a written acknowledgement of the warning

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2. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation is currently the National Program Director for the Verizon Foundation ("the Foundation") and Vice President for Education & Training for Verizon. He works on educational literacy and technology innovations for the Foundation, 80% of his time is spent on Thinkfinity. He is the only person with an operational role in the program.
3. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation helped arrange the Verizon Foundation's participation at 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference ("the Conference") in 2008; he also accompanied Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation to the event.
4. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation reviews repeat grant requests for the Foundation. When asked how the Carib News Foundation request came to his desk he stated that it was a result of conversations with Karl Rodney and Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation. He was not sure which conversation occurred first. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was invited to speak at the Conference and either simultaneously or immediately after Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation received the invitation, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney.
5. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes that he spoke with Mr. Rodney in person at a meeting for the Foundation for the University of the West Indies. Mr. Rodney inquired about the application for the grant for the Conference. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation recalled Mr. Rodney stating that he had spoke with Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and that he believed the Conference would be a good fit for the Foundation and would provide a good opportunity to communicate the Foundation's program Thinkfinity.
6. The Verizon Foundation also supports the Foundation for the University of the West Indies. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation has interacted with Mr. Rodney regarding the Foundation for the University of the West Indies.
7. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation also had previous interactions with Mr. Rodney at dinner and business meetings related the American Fund and to the publication of articles on the Foundation's Thinkfinity program.
8. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation will have been with the Foundation 3 years in October.

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9. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes he began talking with Mr. Rodney about the Conference sometime in the summer. He spoke with Mr. Rodney about the grant application. He described to Mr. Rodney the cyber grant process and explained what needed to be provided in the grant application. The system requires applicants to be 501 (c)(3) entities.
10. The head of Governance and Compliance for Verizon verifies whether applicant is a registered 501(c)(3). A grant request from a non 501 (c)(3) would be removed from the system; the request would not be forwarded to Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation. The Foundation's grant approval process is formal. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he could show a specific interest in a proposal but could not give any type of commitment to an applicant.
11. Mr. Rodney would be required to provide a deck of the "07 conference, a description of the purpose of the conference and a tentative agenda for the cyber application.
12. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney approximately 8-10 weeks prior to the conference at which time they discussed the level of sponsorship the Foundation was interested in funding.
13. Mr. Rodney described 3 levels of sponsorship to Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that this was typical of corporate sponsorships at other conferences.
14. Mr. Rodney offered the Foundation a \$50,000 sponsorship, which was the gold level. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes there was also a platinum level at \$75,000. He believes that Mr. Rodney showed him a 2007 deck with 3 levels (platinum at \$75,000, gold at \$50,000, and silver at \$25,000) prior to a scheduled interview of Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation.
15. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation explained to Mr. Rodney that the Foundation wished to negotiate a level of funding other than what was being offered. The amount of \$35,000 was decided upon by the Foundation.
16. When asked what the Foundation would receive for its funding, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that they would receive signage but that the Foundation was not specifically interested in a "quid pro quo" reciprocation, the Foundation merely wanted to disseminate information about its Thinkfinity program. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation does not do business in the Caribbean.

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17. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation made an introductory speech but that he was not sure whether the speech was included in the Foundation's sponsorship level; the speech was not pre-set in the 2007 sponsorship deck.
18. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney approximately once a week for 6-7 weeks prior to the conference to discuss Verizon's participation/logistics/capacity for web casts at the conference – contact included phone calls and emails. Contact increased as conference approached.
19. When asked how Verizon decided on \$35,000 sponsorship, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he received a call from the Carib staff regarding the conference. The Foundation was asked to sponsor at the \$50,000 level, a \$35,000 counter-offer was made to Mr. Rodney, which he accepted.
20. Conversations regarding sponsorship levels began about 8-10 weeks prior to the conference with the final dollar figure being determined approximately 2 weeks prior to the conference.
21. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Patricia with Carib regarding sponsorship, she thought the Foundation was sponsoring at the \$50,000, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation explained that the amount was \$35,000. When asked if Karl Rodney was upset with the sponsorship level, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation answered that he was not upset.
22. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation worked on the conference before Carib submitted application for funding which he stated was not unusual.
23. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he saw early drafts of the agenda prior to the conference, and then saw final draft at conference.
24. An early draft was shared with him in order for him to staff and notify Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation of his speaking times.
25. He did not recall seeing any affiliation information on the early draft, he believes affiliations might have appeared on final draft. He did ask that any information be included on final draft after reviewing the earlier version.
26. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation prepared 2 versions of the Foundation's role at the conference.

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27. The topics for the conference were decided through dialog between himself and Karl Rodney with some prior comments from Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation. Mr. Rodney was aware of the Thinkfinity program. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation suggested web casts.
28. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation thought that Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and Mr. Rodney framed the Foundation's participation at the conference.
29. Town Hall event was Mr. Rodney's idea.
30. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes that Mr. Rodney was trying to bring together various corporate interests to create a dialogue about social and economic issues that would benefit both the Caribbean and the U.S.
31. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Carib News Foundation was the only charitable entity that he was aware of, it was the listed entity in the grant application.
32. The question arose as to who sponsored conference, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he was aware that Carib News was a for-profit entity, so he asked who was the sponsor. If the sponsor was Carib News, the Foundation could not participate as a sponsor.
33. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he did not see the check that went to the Conference, it would have been generated and sent through the internal system.
34. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation did not recall seeing the name Carib News Charities Inc.
35. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation saw an early draft of the grant application but does not recall seeing the final version. He was not responsible for final approval.
36. Kathy Browne, Senior VP for Corporate Responsibility would have approved the grant.
37. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spent 2.5 days at the conference, he arrived on Thursday evening, participated at the conference on Friday and departed on Sunday.
38. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation participated in the welcome remarks on Friday morning, the plenary session, and in a roundtable meeting with educational ministers.
39. Mr. Rodney arranged these meetings, the webcast did not take place.

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40. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation did not attend the conference on Saturday or Sunday. He also left the hotel after the Foundation completed its presentations.
41. When asked about the Town Hall meeting, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Karl Rodney suggested that the Foundation speak about the Thinkfinity program, the opening remarks framework was also suggested by Mr. Rodney, Mr. Eve was to give introductory remarks and then Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was to speak.
42. There was a back and forth discussion about the plenary session between Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and Mr. Rodney to determine what role the Foundation would play in conjunction with the President of Medgar Evers College. The topic was technology supporting education.
43. There was no discussion regarding scheduling sessions to benefit US companies.
44. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he did not have any contact with Members of Congress other than a possible introductory handshake.
45. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation saw Representatives Kilpatrick, Rangel and the former head of the NAACP at the conference, along with other governmental officials from other countries. He also recalled seeing Delegate Christensen and Representative Payne. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation did not know Representative Thompson.
46. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation interacted with Mr. Rodney after the conference to discuss the American Fund and the University of the West Indies. He did not discuss the conference with Mr. Rodney.
47. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes that he may have received a thank you letter from Mr. Rodney for participating at the conference.
48. He did not see the contribution-sponsorship letter.
49. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was aware of Mr. Rodney's Foundation, and the fact that it sponsored the conference. He also believed Mr. Rodney's Foundation performed social work for boys and girls club events and that it worked with the American Fund for the University of the West Indies. He was not sure why he felt that Rodney's Foundation was involved with these other events.

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50. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation did not place any restrictions on the funding it provided to the conference through its grant, the use would have been specified in the grant application/guidelines

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

3/23/09.

For Office Use: _____

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 13



Carib News Foundation
 7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
 Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
 E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

April 04, 2008

Ms. Marilyn Johnson
 VP Marketing Development
 IBM Corporation
 1133 Westchester Avenue
 White Plains, NY 10604

*Copy of [unclear]
 - copy of [unclear]
 - copy of [unclear]*

Dear Ms. Johnson:

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

Your support and that of IBM went a long way to make the conference a success, and has fostered on-going growth in business achievements and impactful policy decisions. We appreciate very much the professionalism and enthusiasm you bring to the Conference with your keen participation. The presence and demonstration of real live "IBM Partner" as a result of the conference is a powerful testimony. We do get concrete results and expressed appreciation of new opportunities.

We can assure you that all the key stakeholders, Members of Congress, Heads and Ministers of Government, Elected Officials, Community and Business Leaders are all aware and appreciative of IBM's participation in this very important mission.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. We know of your interest to deepen the IBM local, regional and global connection, and I know the Conference can achieve that. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

3

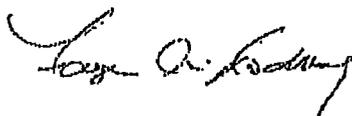
Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail. I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

(4)

CARIB NEWS INC.
7 WEST 36TH STREET
8TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, 10018
212-944-1991

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
7/16/2008	45122

Bill To
Wanda McKenzie IBM 2607 Jesters Court Marietta, GA 30068

Description	Amount
Sponsorship Multi-National Business Conference 2008 TAX ID 13-362060	20,000.00
6	
Total	\$20,000.00

EXP		Places: 1/1
FROM: 18 MCSB TROLL 0630 M. Johnson C/O ARNOLD LOGISTICS 11400 BURNET RD AUSTIN, TX 78758		ORIGIN: 1LE
TO: NEW YORK CARIB NEWS, INC. FAVE RODNEY 7 WEST 96TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10018 UNITED STATES		POSTCODE: 10018
UNITED STATES POWER ST 2-286-2530		TEL: 212-944-1091
Description: IBM check		
Weight: Letter Date: 2008-10-08		
DHL standard terms and conditions apply.		
 CALJUST018		JRAC 0T ABH
 WAYBILL: 2928725550 (Please Recycle)		

International Business Machines Corporation
1970 North Dearborn Street, New York, NY 10161-5653

Check Number: 000377521

DATE: 2008/10/08

Pay to the order of: **NEW YORK CARIB NEWS**
7 W 36TH ST 8TH FL
NEW YORK, NY 10018
UNITED STATES

THE SUM OF \$ *******20,000.00****

Per: *Richard J. Carroll*
Authorized signature

⑆000377521⑆ ⑆021309379⑆601825847⑆

7

Exhibit 14

09-2567 0151.1

May 15, 2009

MEMORANDUM

VIA FAX TO: 202-226-0997

TO: Omar Ashmawy
FROM: Will Ris
RE: Materials related to Carib News Foundation Conference

At your request, I am faxing you the following documents:

1. The original letter of request for support from Carib News Foundation sent to American Airlines. I assume that they sent the identical letter to other airlines because in paragraph 3, they refer to "Continental" when it should be "American". In any case, they requested a total of 95 tickets for this event. We responded orally and told them the maximum we could provide would be 10.
2. A listing of the 10 tickets that we provided. If you need more detailed records of each individual ticket, I am happy to provide it. But this shows the names and itineraries of all 10 travelers. We provided no other support for the conference except that our group sales office authorized a standard 5 percent discount on tickets for those travelling to the conference - - this is universally available to any group of 10 or more travelling to the same location.

If there is anything else I can help you with, please let me know.



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

June 6, 2008

Mr. Will Ris
Senior Vice President
Government Affairs
American Airlines
1101 17th Street, Suite 600
Washington, DC 20036

(1st First)

Dear Mr. Ris:

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Since Air Transportation is such a vital issue for the Caribbean Region, it is going to be one of the Agenda items in the travel & Tourism sector. Continental's success is vital to the Caribbean region and the US role in world travel; we would expect significant input into any initiatives discussed.

We expect to have elected officials of the US and the Caribbean, Civic Leaders and Business- persons who can influence policies and encourage worthwhile initiatives to be at the Conference. We would welcome American Airlines' participation.

The Host Committee in the Caribbean Region and the Planning Committee in the US have all agreed to honor you with the Conference's prestigious *Marcus Garvey Bridge Builders Award*. Should you agree to accept, we would ask Congressman Charles Rangel and Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson to make the presentation to you.

We are open to our customary barrier of tickets for sponsorship levels, and have enclosed a proposed arrangement guide similar to last year.

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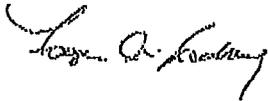
Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail. I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

We are expecting about 20 Members of Congress or more who will be attending along with other Civic Leaders and VIP's. Again, we will position American Airlines as one of the main carriers to the Caribbean transporting the elected officials and celebrities. To help us move the process along we would like to propose the following, that American Airlines participate as a Gold Sponsor of the conference in consideration for which American Airlines would receive the following:

- American Airlines will be recognized as a main sponsor.
- American Airlines name and logo will be included on all printed material.
- American Airlines will be included in all radio and television promotions.
- American Airlines will be in all Internet promotions.
- American Airlines will be a designated sponsor of a main event and/or a workshop with speaking opportunities.
- American Airlines will receive prominent space for display or exhibition.
- American Airlines banners will be displayed in the main conference area
- American Airlines can develop specific promotional materials.

In return for the above, American Airlines will provide *Carib News* with:

- Maximum of fifty (50) roundtrip coach class tickets from the 48 contiguous United States to Antigua. Reservations to be done by *Carib News* and ticketing to be by American Airlines.
- Maximum of thirty-five (35) first-class roundtrip tickets from the 48 contiguous United States to Antigua.
- Maximum of five (5) coach class tickets and five (5) first class tickets to be used for site inspection and conference planning prior to the conference.
- American Airlines will provide group fares for registered attendees. Fare and reservations & ticketing to be negotiated by American Airlines.

Site Inspection is part of the sponsorship package. We do plan to do site inspections in St. Maarten when we will officially announce the Conference and work out broad issues.

CARIBBEANS SSM CONFERENCE 2008

Organization Name	Booking Code	Destination	Tel/No	Event Name	Authorizer STA	SR2	SR4	Issued Num	Expiration Date	Number	Routing	FMS	Transfer Name
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	2	SSM	PROGRAM	Caribbean SSM Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	388125	15-Jun-09	323150	JFC-SM-JFC	LINKING	SODNEY/S
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	2	SSM	PROGRAM	Caribbean SSM Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	388125	16-Jun-09	323150	JFC-SM-JFC	LINKING	SODNEY/S
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	2	SSM	PROGRAM	Caribbean SSM Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	388127	16-Jun-09	323150	JFC-SM-JFC	LINKING	SODNEY/S
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	2	SSM	PROGRAM	Caribbean SSM Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	388128	16-Jun-09	323150	JFC-SM-JFC	LINKING	SODNEY/S
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	2	SSM	PROGRAM	Caribbean SSM Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	388129	16-Jun-09	323150	JFC-SM-JFC	LINKING	SODNEY/S
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	2	SSM	PROGRAM	Caribbean SSM Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	388130	16-Jun-09	323150	JFC-SM-JFC	LINKING	SODNEY/S
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	2	SSM	PROGRAM	Caribbean SSM Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	388131	16-Jun-09	323150	JFC-SM-JFC	LINKING	SODNEY/S
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	T	SSM	PROGRAM	Caribbean SSM Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	412645	28-Aug-05	336511	JFC-SM-JFC	LINKING	WILLIAMS/J
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	T	SSM	PROGRAM	Caribbean SSM Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	412646	28-Aug-05	336511	JFC-SM-JFC	LINKING	WILLIAMS/J
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	T	SSM	PROGRAM	Caribbean SSM Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	412647	28-Aug-05	336511	JFC-SM-JFC	LINKING	WILLIAMS/J
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	T	SSM	PROGRAM	Caribbean SSM Conference 2008	50848	3237	1141	412648	28-Aug-05	336511	JFC-SM-JFC	LINKING	WILLIAMS/J

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House ID	Registrant Name	Client Name	Filing Year	Filing Period	Lobbyist Full Name
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2006	Year-End	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2006	Year-End	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2006	Year-End	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2007	Mid-Year	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION	2007	Year-End	Caine, Christopher

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311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2007	Mid- Year	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2007	Mid- Year	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	1st Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	2nd Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	3rd Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	4th Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2009	1st Quarter	Edington, PJ
311230000	International Business Machines Corporation (IBM)	International Business Machines Corporation (IBM)	2005	Year- End	Caine, Christopher
401290000	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	2008	1st Quarter	None -
401290000	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	2008		Last Name 01, First Name 01
401290000	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	2008	3rd Quarter	None

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310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2006	Year-End	Burgeson, Christine
310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2007	Mid-Year	Burgeson, Christine
310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2007	Year-End	Burgeson, Christine
310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2007	Year-End	Burgeson, Christine
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2007	Mid-Year	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2007	Year-End	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	1st Quarter	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	2nd Quarter	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	3rd Quarter	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	4th Quarter	None
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2006	Year-End	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2007	Mid-Year	Snyder, John

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316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2007	Year-End	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	1st Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	2nd Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	3rd Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	4th Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2009	1st Quarter	Snyder, John
373770000	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	2007	Mid-Year	Robinson, Ken
373770000	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	2007	Year-End	Robinson, Kenneth



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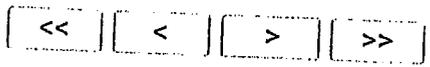
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House ID	Registrant Name	Client Name	Filing Year	Filing Period	Lobbyist Full Name
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2006	Year-End	Davidson, Peter B.
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Mid-Year	Davidson, Peter B.
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Year-End	Davidson, Peter
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	1st Quarter	Davidson, Peter
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	2nd Quarter	Cantrel, Frank
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	3rd Quarter	Cantrel, Frank
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	4th Quarter	Davidson, Peter
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2009	1st Quarter	Cantrel, Frank
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2006	Year-End	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Mid-Year	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Year-End	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	1st	09-2567 0151.12

352050000 VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
352050000 VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	2nd Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
352050000 VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	3rd Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
352050000 VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	4th Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
315720000 Verizon & its affiliates, except Verizon Wireless	Verizon & its affiliates, except Verizon Wireless	2009	1st Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
315720000 Verizon & its affiliates, except Verizon Wireless	Verizon & its affiliates, except Verizon Wireless	2005	Year-End	Davidson, Peter
352050000 Verizon Wireless	Verizon Wireless	2006	Mid-Year	Davidson, Peter
352050000 Verizon Wireless	Verizon Wireless	2005	Year-End	Azare, Monica
	Verizon Wireless	2006	Mid-Year	Azare, Monica



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Exhibit 16

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BASIC REQUIREMENTS

TO HOST

GARIBBEAN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

- Invitation to host conference to be issued by Prime Minister (Head of Government). This is to facilitate the attendance of several elected officials from the United States, United Kingdom and other countries.
- Prime Minister to be keynote speaker at one of the major events of the conference and participate in the closed door session with attending elected officials.
- Local host committee to be organized with all interested ministers, agencies and associations. The chairman of this committee would be someone designated by the Prime Minister to coordinate all the activities.
- To provide the care and comfort for the VIP's attending i.e.
 - To provide 25 all-inclusive rooms for the VIP's and members of Congress attending.
 - To provide appropriate mode of transportation for VIP's and members of Congress - cars or specialized vans - not buses.
- To be a designated sponsor in one of the categories - *Title, Main or Regular Sponsor* (See Attachment)
- To organize a "Host Country Evening" - The Friday evening, the host country will host at an appropriate location an evening of food, refreshment, cultural presentation and entertainment.
- Provide for local entertainment for the various functions -
 - The Opening Ceremonies
 - The Reception
 - The Gala Dinner
- To assist in Promotion and Publicity of the conference both locally and through international offices and official publications.
- Assist in securing competitive hotel rates.
- Equip and staff conference secretariat.
- Prime Minister to issue invitations along with CARIB-NEWS to members of the US Congress, other Prime Ministers and Ministers of Government.
- Participate in the Forum with Members of Congress.
- Arrange tours and activities of interest for VIP's and/or their spouse.

09-2567 0151.15

THE NEW YORK
CARIBNEWS
THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10018 (212) 944-1991

August 13, 2008

The Hon. Sarah A. Wescott-Williams
Leader of Government
Government Administration Building
Clem Labega Square, Philipsburg
St. Maarten, N.A.

Hon. Commissioner:

Plans are moving ahead for the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-national Business Conference, November 6-9 in your beautiful country. We have sent out invitations to several Members of Congress, Prime Ministers, Presidents and Premiers, to attend the Conference. A list of those invitees is attached. Senator Hillary Clinton has expressed an interest and her invitation will be forwarded soon. Also see Congressman Rangel's personal note of acceptance.

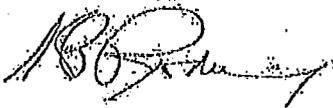
We wish for you now to send out your invitation to these individuals as previously discussed. A copy of past invitation letter is included. We will continue to do all the follow-up as planning and implementation as agreed to.

We are working on the draft of the program and will be sharing it with you and the Host Committee shortly. We would like to schedule our first Conference meeting by telephone with the Host Committee within the next 10 days, to start going over each area of the Basic requirements list, and to develop some time-line and contact person for each area.

We need to know immediately who on the Host Committee will be handling press and publicity, we can start sending Press Releases and Press updates.

We will be sending regular updates.

Kindest Regards



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CFO

c.c. Commissioner Roy Marlin
Director of Tourism, Regina LaBega
Marla Chemont



Taking Our Rightful Place In The Sun

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Carib News Foundation

7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017

Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089

E-mail:

June 26, 2008

Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams
Leader of Government Business
Government Administration Building
Clem Labega Square
Philipsburg, St. Maarten, NA

Dear Commissioner Wescot-Williams:

Plans are coming in place for the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-national Business Conference scheduled for November 6-9 at your invitation to the beautiful country of St. Maarten.

We were very involved with the Conference on the Caribbean held in New York last week with some fifteen Heads of CARICOM Governments, which was a success, but took a large part of our time. All attention is now set for St. Maarten.

We have signed the contract with the Malio Resort and we are in conversation with many of our sponsors. Already we have some important names agreeing to come, including Congressman Charles Rangel and Governor of New York, David Paterson. We are mindful of the issues of interest to St. Maarten and so we have issued invitations to several Members of Congress, Heads of Education and Health institutions. A strong financial sector is expected; already Citibank and HSBC are on board.

There is very strong interest in the conference and all the information about the conference as St. Maarten is now on the website, in print and on radio. The promotion has begun in earnest.

We would now wish to start liaison with the local host committee to coordinate our planning with yours. Could you be kind enough to please identify the committee and the contact person and other information. We would wish that the person would report to you directly or Commissioner Marlin to expedite any matter.

Please find attached ideas for the Theme and some areas of concentration from which we can develop the program. The Host Committee should use the basic requirement as the basis for their planning. We will send a matrix of some-time line and arrange for our next planning visit.

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2008 CARIBBEAN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

THEMES

We are suggesting as possible themes, the following:

Please feel free to change, adjust or even new approaches.

CHANGING STRATEGIES TO EMBRACE NEW POSSIBILITIES - THE GLOBAL MARKET

MOVING BEYOND BARRIERS TO A STRATEGY FOR GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

CHANGING STRATEGIES, BUILDING ALLIANCES, FACING NEW REALITIES

A REGION IN TRANSITION - STRATEGY FOR CHANGE, ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS

AREAS OF CONCENTRATION

We are also now shaping the presentations and the workshops and the areas of concentration are some of which were suggested by yourself and Commissioner Martin.

1) **TOURISM**

- Pre clearance
- Unfunded mandate by the US
- Investment in Tourism
- Health tourism
- Regional co-operation

2) **HEALTH**

- St. Maarten, ideal location for Regional Health Center
- Delivery of health care
- Lifestyle diseases - diabetes, hypertension, obesity
- Health Investment
- Collaboration with US Institutions

3) **EDUCATION**

- Collaboration with US institutions
- Curriculum development
- Presentation of Thinkfinity - high tech tool for teaching
- Initiative between the University of the West Indies and Medgar Evers College

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Carib News Foundation

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E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

To : Host Committee
Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference
cc. Bernard Hunt, Sonesta Maho Beach Resort

From : Karl B. Rodney
CARIB NEWS

Date : October 15, 2008

SUBJECT : Town Hall Meetings

In the interest of organizing successful Town Hall Meetings, and to make program print deadline, we suggest the use of the space available at the Sonesta Maho for those meetings.

We think the participation of the local groups and individuals in these meetings are necessary and productive because of the subject matter. We would therefore urge a strong outreach media program and direct contact to interest groups to ensure success of the For.

Thursday 5:00 - 6:30pm : Healthy Eating and Living

Friday 4:30 - 6:00pm : Education - Sharing Working Solutions

Saturday 4:30 - 6:00 pm : Technology

There is a great line up and we may have some additional star power. Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams also suggested she might have additional local speakers for these for a, and we welcome that.

Thanks for your kind cooperation.

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7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

February 8, 2008

Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams
Leader of Government Business
Government Administration Building
Clem Labega Square
Philipsburg, St. Maarten, NA

Dear Commissioner Wescot-Williams:

It is with great pleasure that I wish to inform you that the Planning Committee has selected St. Maarten to host the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, November 6-9, 2008. There was great interest in St. Maarten because of your personal invitation issued in Antigua, and certainly all the other excellent facilities on the island.

We look forward to a great conference and with working with you and your team. We would wish that you appoint the Host Committee as soon as possible so that the real planning will start. We will be proposing some thematic approaches for your consideration, in order to get the right participants and targeted focus.

We have the proposal from the hotels and will be making that selection within the week, after which we can start the promotion. The *SAVE THE DATE* and *VENUE* will be going out to the Members of Congress shortly. We will develop a time line for the other activities.

We are proceeding with the plan and would appreciate the formal letter of invitation.

We are very excited about working with you and St. Maarten again, and we expect a great conference.

Congratulations, and thanks for your kind consideration.

Very Truly Yours,

Karl B. Rodney

President

Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

cc. Marla Chemont, Marketing Assistant

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Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

January 23, 2008

Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams
Leader of Government Business
Government Administration Building
Clara Labega Square
Philipsburg, St. Maarten, NA

Dear Commissioner Wescot-Williams:

Thanks very much for inviting us to St. Maarten to explore the possibility of St. Maarten as the Host Venue for the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, scheduled for November 6-9, 2008.

We had the pleasure of meeting with Commissioner Roy Martin to discuss the conference, its mission and of course, St. Maarten's priorities to be addressed in the conference. Among the areas discussed were:

- ♦ The Passport issue and its impact on St. Maarten and the Caribbean
- ♦ The US Pre-clearance option and what are the possibilities
- ♦ Educational collaboration and in-state tuition consideration for students from St. Maarten
- ♦ A major women's initiative at the conference and targeting many large sororities to hold meetings and conventions in St. Maarten
- ♦ The influence on impact of the Congressional delegation on the current constitutional negotiations with the Dutch Government, particularly where the Dutch Government has lobbied these Members on their special interests.
- ♦ An appealing or special role model to address the youth of St. Maarten
- ♦ To conduct community outreach programs involving the wider population in the areas of Health, Education and possibly Technology.

These are areas that we can establish direct linkages with elected officials, professional experts, corporate perspectives and certainly business opportunities.

We were reminded by Ludwig Oueniche the then President of the Chamber of Commerce, that it was in St. Maarten that the issue of increase of Duty Free Allowance was raised and was subsequently raised to twice the amount within six months, benefiting all the merchants not only in St. Maarten but the Caribbean.

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Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

April 04, 2008

Ms. Marilyn Johnson
VP Marketing Development
IBM Corporation
1133 Westchester Avenue
White Plains, NY 10604

*Copy of Invoice
- copy of check
- copy of photo*

Dear Ms. Johnson:

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

Your support and that of *IBM* went a long way to make the conference a success and has fostered on-going growth in business achievements and impactful policy decisions. We appreciate very much the professionalism and enthusiasm you bring to the Conference with your keen participation. The presence and demonstration of real live "*IBM Partner*" as a result of the conference is a powerful testimony. We do get concrete results and expressed appreciation of new opportunities.

We can assure you that all the key stakeholders, Members of Congress, Heads and Ministers of Government, Elected Officials, Community and Business Leaders are all aware and appreciative of *IBM's* participation in this very important mission.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. We know of your interest to deepen the *IBM* local, regional and global connection, and I know the Conference can achieve that. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

3

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

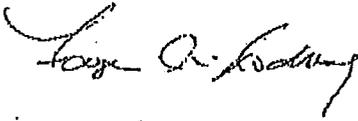
09-2567 0151.22

We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail. I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

4

Exhibit 17

Registration

From: plouis [plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 11:00 AM
To: 'Kelly Mobley, Dawn'
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,
In response to your e-mail, the answer to your question is NO.

Regards and Thanks for your patience

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 10:26 AM
To: plouis
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

FYI

From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 2:41 PM
To: plouis
cc: Kelly Mobley, Dawn; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Louis,

Please explain in more detail your email message below relative to the "sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip." In this regard, do the following entities pay for any of the expenses of the trip for the invited House Members, including roundtrip air transportation costs, lodging costs, meal costs, cost of a particular meal or reception, etc.?

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM

10/15/2007

09-2567 0153

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000053

- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:17 AM
To: Olson, Susan
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,

In response to your e-mail:

The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation.

As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program:

that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Federally registered lobbyists or foreign agents will not be accompanying the Members or participating in the program.

Regards,

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill

10/15/2007

09-2567 0154

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000054

Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's (Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring" sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]," which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

10/15/2007

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09-2567 0156

CN-000056



THE NEW YORK CARIB NEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 16TH STREET, 25 FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10011

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	FROM:
Susan Olson	R. Louis
COMPANY:	DATE:
House Case on Standards	10/12/07
FAX NUMBER:	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
202-225-7392	
RE: Travel Certification Form	
<input type="checkbox"/> URGENT <input type="checkbox"/> FOR REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE REPLY <input type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION	

Ms. Olson,
In response to your e-mail -- the Conference is paid for by CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION.

The companies are participants. They are not sponsors or co-sponsors for any part of the trip and play no role in the planning or content.

The program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants.

I regret the misunderstanding and thank you for your patience as I go through and grow through this process, which is new to me.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

09-2567 0157

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn (Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov)
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 1:55 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Confidential

The fax did not come through. I will be stepping out of the office for the remainder of the day, but will be in early Monday. Please follow up again with Susan. I have explained that the organizations you labeled as co-sponsors are not. They support your foundation annually, but have not and will not pay for the Members trip. This is simply a misunderstanding of the terms "sponsor", "contributor", and "participant" as used in the Ethics rules which is why I sent you the Rules book for preparation.

Once you are able to clarify these issues and make sure your itinerary passes too, you should be fine. An Ethics Committee Staff Attorney must review and approve as well. Your Staff Attorney is Susan.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 11:55 AM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Confidential

Have you spoken with your Director and explained the problem so you can call Olson asap?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:59 AM
To: plouls
Subject: FW: Confidential

Please read bpfr emails below. Give Susan a call as soon as you work through the kink, let her know you are following up. Please make yourself available to work through this matter today. Thank you Patricia. (These other organizations can participate in the program but should not help pay for the trip).

From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:29 AM
To: O'Reilly, Bill; Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-Trip Approval Issues

Bill and Dawn,
Please note the following response from Ms. Louis at Carib News. Unfortunately, it appears that if each sponsor contributes funding directly to the trip (an earmark of funds) and not simply to the general funds of Carib News, then the assumption is that all of these entities are co-sponsors of the trip for purposes of the House travel rules. If that is the case and since it is likely that at least one of these co-sponsors hires or retains a federally registered lobbyist, the trip could only be a one-day event trip. Thus the Committee can't approve the trip as it currently exists.

But, if you have a different interpretation of the below information from Ms. Louis, please do let
10/12/2007

09-2567 0158

CONFIDENTIAL

CNL000058

me know. Thanks! Susan.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:33 AM
To: Olson, Susan
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,

In response to your e-mail:

The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation.

As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program

that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the

Conference.

No federally registered lobbyist or foreign agent will be accompanying the Members of participating in the program.

Regards

Patricia-Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn.KellyMoblely@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's

10/12/2007

09-2567 0159

CONFIDENTIAL

CA 000050

(Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring" sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]" which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

10/12/2007

09-2567 0160

CONFIDENTIAL

CM-000060

HT-2, The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7103
Fax: 202-225-7392

10/12/2007

09-2567 0161

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000061



THE NEW YORK CARIB NEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 50TH STREET, 40 FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Dawn Kelly Mobley	FROM: P. Louis
COMPANY: Ethics Counsel for Cong. Stephanie Tubbs Jones	DATE: 10/11/07
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: Travel Form	

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Further to our conversations of this morning, following is the Travel Certification Form ..

The Conference is paid for by the Carib News Foundation. The companies are participants, are not sponsors or co-sponsors for any part of the trip and play no role in the planning or content.

The program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants

I regret the mis-understanding and thank you for holding my hand as I go through and grow through this process which is new to me.

Kindly review and advise before I send to Ms. Olsen.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Registration

From: Thomas, Shelley [Shelley.Thomas@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 7:47 AM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

This is new territory since we never had to go through this before. I don't have an answer and I already turned in Donna's forms.

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 5:55 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn, Thomas, Shelley, Dalley, George
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Please see e-mail I received from Ms. Olson of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

A possible response could be: The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation. As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Please advise us.

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----
From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn, Kelly Mobley@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's (Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring"

sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]," which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

09-2567 0164

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000064

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 6:49 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Her question centers on whether any of these "co-sponsors" retains a lobbyist or foreign. This is the issue you and I focused on previously. It is a central problem if any do and are paying for the events. If so, you are in the same position as last year with one-day events. Call Susan back tomorrow as early as possible. Hopefully, these co-sponsors don't retain lobbyists, but you should have their representations on this matter. At a minimum, Macy's does, right? Alternatively, if they are only sponsoring event tables or the like, a lobbyist will not be problematic.

Sent using BlackBerry

-----Original Message-----

From: plouls@nycaribnews.com
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn; Thomas, Shelley; Dalley, George
Sent: Wed Oct 10 17:56:25 2007
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Please see e-mail I received from Ms. Olson of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct:

A possible response could be: The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation. As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Please advise us.

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louis

Executive Assistant

CARIB-NEWS

7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor

New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM

09-2567 0165

To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn Kelly Mobley@mail.houass.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-Trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's (Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring" sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o GHI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]" which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

10/10/2007

09-2567 0166

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000066

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson
Counsel
House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
HT-2, The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7103
Fax: 202-225-7392

10/10/2007

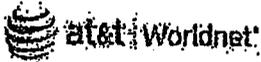
09-2567 0167

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000067

From: Shelley Thomas

Page 1 of 1



[Print] [Close]

From: "Thomas, Shelley" <Shelley.Thomas@mail.house.gov>
 "James, Corlis" <Corlis.James@mail.house.gov>, "Long, Keryn" <Keryn.Long@mail.house.gov>,
 "Bishop, Mary" <Mary.Bishop@mail.house.gov>, "Chaplin, Jennie"
 <Jennie.Chaplin@mail.house.gov>, "Pickens, Crystal" <Crystal.Pickens@mail.house.gov>, "Hamlett,
 Biennial" <Barbara.Hamlett@mail.house.gov>, "Hendricks, Jasper"
 <Jasper.Hendricks@mail.house.gov>, "Dalley, Katie" <Katie.Dalley@mail.house.gov>,
 "GAO4Scheduling" <GAO4Scheduling@mail.house.gov>, "Murray, Darlene"
 <Darlene.Murray@mail.house.gov>, "Fisher, Pat" <Pat.Fisher@mail.house.gov>, "Featherston,
 Wendy" <Wendy.Featherston@mail.house.gov>, "Pittman, Megan" <MPittman@mail.house.gov>,
 To: "King, Lalla" <Lalla.King@mail.house.gov>, "Resendez, Marvene"
 <Marvene.Resendez@mail.house.gov>, "Kalinga, Tatyana" <Tatyana.Kalinga@mail.house.gov>,
 "Taylor, Gerri" <Gerri.Taylor@mail.house.gov>, "Anderson, Kwamime (Waters)"
 <Kwamime.Anderson@mail.house.gov>, "Howie, Elisa" <Elisa.Howie@mail.house.gov>, "Borja,
 Angie" <Angie.Borja@mail.house.gov>, "Roddey, Raven" <raven.roddey@mail.house.gov>,
 "Waskow, Jean" <Jean.Waskow@mail.house.gov>, "Holmes, Alice M."
 <Alice.M.Holmes@mail.house.gov>, "Epps, Nkana" <Nkana.Epps@mail.house.gov>, "Johnson, Aya"
 <Aya.Johnson@mail.house.gov>
 Cc: <carib_desk@att.net>
 Subject: Emailing 110th rule change page
 Date: Thu, 4 Oct 2007 16:36:27 +0000

To the CBC Members who indicated a "yes" or "maybe" in attending the Carib News Foundation Business Conference in Antigua, British West Indies on November 8-11 of 2007, I have attached the web site for the travel form that must be submitted by Members no later than **TUESDAY, October 9** to the Ethics Committee. I will be bringing copies of the agenda, as well as copies of the ethics form that Carib News had to complete and submit to Ethics, to all of the offices indicated above, today and tomorrow by noon. If anyone has any questions, please call me at 3-1790. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT MEMBERS HAVE THEIR OFFICIAL PASSPORT, AS WE ARE GOING TO A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

The message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments:

Shortcut to: http://www.house.gov/ethics/110th_rule_change_page.htm

Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled.
 <<110th_rule_change_page.url>>

Attachment 1: [110th_rule_change_page.url](#) (application/octet-stream)

09-2567 0168

<http://webmail.att.net/wmc/n/wm/47056C17000D0D2F00002DBD2160376223059C0A0B...> 10/4/2007

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000068

New Travel Regulations, Forms, and Instructions (effective March 1, 2007):

The House Rules for the 110th Congress changed the travel rules for Members, staff, and outside sponsors. Regulations, forms, and instructions governing privately-sponsored travel taking place after March 1, 2007 are available below. An Advisory Memorandum providing additional guidance regarding travel was released on March 15, 2007. New versions of the forms relating to privately-sponsored travel were released April 6, 2007.

- Travel Guidelines and Regulations
- Instructions and Certification Form to be filled out by Private Sponsors
- Traveler Form to be filled out by Members, Officers, and Employees
- Post-Travel Disclosure Form for Members and Officers
- Post-Travel Disclosure Form for Employees

Please note: Both the Private Sponsor Certification and the Member/Officer/Employee Traveler Forms must be filed with the Committee at the same time in order to process your request.

New Gift Rule Changes:

The House Rules for the 110th Congress amended House Rule 25, Clause 3 (the "gift rule") with respect to the acceptance of gifts and travel. Some of the guidance on this website regarding gifts and travel may therefore no longer apply. On February 6, 2007, the Committee issued an advisory memorandum on the changes to the gift rule. On May 24, 2007, the House amended the gift rule exception concerning the acceptance of offers of free attendance at charity events. In view of the amendment, on June 14, 2007, the Committee issued a revised memorandum that incorporates the change to the rule. Please contact Committee staff at 202-225-7103 with any questions.

Financial Interests under New Earmark Rules

The House Rules for the 110th Congress changed the Code of Official Conduct regarding earmarks. This provision requires that a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner who requests an earmark or a limited tax or tariff benefit to provide certain information regarding the request and its purpose to the committee of jurisdiction. An Advisory Memorandum providing guidance in this matter was released on March 27, 2007.

Registration

From: Smith, Hillary [Hillary.Smith@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2007 4:32 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Travel Approval Forms for Antigua Trip

Patricia,

Here is what I need fixed --

12 -- Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting this trip -- The answer should say something about how Carib News organized, planned, pulled together the invitee list and chose the destination.

13 -- Describe the organizational interest -- It is the Carib News Annual conference.

The revised forms, along with the list of invitees, should be sent to each invitee to then send to the committee so that we do not receive the wrong forms from the Congressional offices. Let me know if you have any questions.

Hillary Smith

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol

Washington, DC 20515

202-225-7103

10/4/2007

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2007 2:02 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Please read query below

Ignore the last email b/c we are working to meet the 30-day submission. Just stand by so we can get back in touch today; have it all resolved tomorrow, Monday is a holiday.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2007 12:39 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Please read query below

Thank you. We have assigned your review to Staff Attorney Susan Olson. Please reach her by phone at 202/226-6808 next week if she has not reached out to you. She will need a few days of review. Thank you very much.

From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 6:40 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Please read query below

The Conference dates are November 8-11, 2007 and opens on Thursday November 8 and ends the morning of November 11, 2007 - (3 nights)

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is the Sponsor of the event.

Item No. 12: The companies like Pfizer, AT&T are donors/contributors of grants to the Foundation for educational purposes and NOT the SPONSOR, consequently I assume the information contained in that item will have to be changed.

Awaiting your advice.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 38th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

----- Original Message -----
From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM

10/3/2007

09-2567 0171

Registration

From: plouis [plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 8:40 PM
To: 'Kelly Mobley, Dawn'
Subject: RE: Please read query below

The Conference dates are November 8-11, 2007, and opens on Thursday November 8 and ends the morning of November 11, 2007. (3 nights)

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is the Sponsor of the event.

Item No. 12: The companies like Pfizer, AT&T are donors/contributors of grants to the Foundation for educational purposes and **NOT the SPONSOR**, consequently I assume the information contained in that item will have to be changed.

Awaiting your advice.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 38th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Please read query below

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:08 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Query

We are trying to work through a problem in approving the co-sponsors piece. Are they each paying for a one-day, widely attended event or more days? Please read the Gift Rules I forwarded you on this matter.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2007 12:42 PM
To: plouis

10/1/2007

09-2567 0172

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000072

Please forward the paperwork as well to the Chairwoman's personal office so her scheduler can complete the work from that office. Please get it to Lalla King today. Her fax number is 202/225-1330. She has to complete the Member's forms and meet the same deadline.

From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 6:40 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Please read query below

The Conference dates are November 8-11, 2007, and opens on Thursday November 8 and ends the morning of November 11, 2007- (3 nights).

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is the Sponsor of the event.

Item No. 12: The companies like Pfizer, AT&T are donors/contributors of grants to the Foundation for educational purposes and NOT the SPONSOR, consequently I assume the information contained in that item will have to be changed.

Awaiting your advice.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Please read query below

09-2567 0173

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000073

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 6:10 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Please read query below

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:08 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Query

We are trying to work through a problem in approving the co-sponsors place. Are they each paying for a one-day, widely attended event or more days? Please read the Gift Rules I forwarded you on this matter.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2007 12:42 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: Query

I am working through your forms before leaving them with our staff attorney and have a question. Query: Why did you not list CARIB-NEWS as the sponsor as you'd indicated instead of Macy's, etc. The official sponsor for travel, lodging, and planning is still Carib News, correct?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2007 12:57 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007 Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

When you send the draft agenda, please also forward any information on your sponsor's status. If he cannot be a lobbyist. Do you need a copy of the new travel rules?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 5:53 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007 Business Conference

Nothing was attached to this email. Therefore, we have not received the proposed agenda you mention below and have nothing to preview.

From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 3:47 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: Draft Program - 2007 Business Conference

Ms. Mobley:
We spoke earlier re permission for Members to attend the Conference and you asked for

The program. I have not gotten back to you because we have been working on getting the program together.
Attached is the draft for your guidance

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018



THE NEW YORK CARIBNEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 34TH STREET, 25 FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Dawn Kelly Mobley	FROM: Patricia Louis
COMPANY:	DATE: 9/21/07
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: SPONSOR FORMS	
<input type="checkbox"/> URGENT <input type="checkbox"/> FOR REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE REPLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION	

Following is a completed form for your advisement /review/ comments.

Regards

09-2567 0176

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of this form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.
Carb News Foundation

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): _____
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of this trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary); each representative's spouse is invited or one family member.

6. Dates of travel: November 6-11, 2007

7. Cities of departure - destination - return: Varies depending on member

8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during this travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was de minimis under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
 - a. One night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two nights' lodging and meals are being offered:If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: Pfizer-Education/Health AT&T and IBM - provide technology to the region. MACYS - seeks new vendor sources, Citibank - opportunities in the region.

13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: Regular scheduled air service, economy class.

14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided; in addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted:

15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):

16. I represent that either (check one of the following):

a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: or

b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation:
If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided):

17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: A Caribbean country that has not previously hosted the conference.

18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: Sandals Resort/Rex Hesori

19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$110.00

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: Has appropriate meeting rooms

21. **TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:**

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	320	330	195
For each accompanying family member	320	0	195

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee		
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Name and title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

Fax number: _____

Email Address: _____

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
 U.S. House of Representatives
 HT-2, The Capitol
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-7105 (phone)
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)
 (202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT THE PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL
CERTIFICATION FORM

1. *Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip):* Fill in the names of each person, organization, or other entity contributing funds or in-kind support towards the trip.
2. *I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent:* House Members and staff may not accept travel funded by a lobbyist or registered foreign agent, even when the lobbyist or foreign agent will be reimbursed by a client or employer.
3. *I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip:* All financial contributors to the trip must qualify as sponsors and should be listed as a sponsor in response to question 1.
4. *Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?* Check yes or no. House Rules permit Members and House staff to accept travel benefits for one accompanying family member if offered by the trip sponsor.
5. *Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited:* You must list every House Member and employee who is invited on the trip, together with your reason for inviting that individual. Members and House staff may accept privately sponsored travel only when related to the individual's official duties. The explanation should demonstrate a connection between the trip and each invitee's official duties.
6. *Dates of Travel:* State the dates of departure and return.
7. *Cities of departure -- destination -- return:* For example, an appropriate entry might read: "DC - Detroit - DC". Include additional destinations if there will be more than one. Do not list the names of airports, times of flights, or cities where travelers will have an airport layover (this information should be included in the attached detailed agenda).
8. *Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel:* The agenda should be a detailed, hour-by-hour agenda. Include the names of speakers and the subjects of briefings. The agenda should also include information regarding the time spent on travel to and from the destination, as well as local travel. Travel will not be approved if the agenda includes an excessive amount of either unscheduled time and/or opportunities for recreational activities, even if such activities are at the personal expense of the invitees.

09-2567 0180

9. *I represent that (check one of the following):* Check only one box in response to this question. "Institutions of higher education" generally includes accredited public and private colleges or trade schools located in the U.S. and its territories; such entities should check box "a," regardless of whether they employ or retain a federal lobbyist or foreign agent. Entities other than institutions of higher education that do not employ or retain a federal lobbyist or foreign agent should check box "b." Entities other than institutions of higher education that do employ or retain a registered lobbyist or foreign agents may sponsor travel only for one-day events. For such trips, lobbyist involvement must be "de minimis" as defined by Committee regulations (see question 12).
10. *If travel is for participation in a one-day event, check one of the following:* Complete this question only if you checked box "c" in response to question 9. For travel to one-day events sponsored by an entity that retains or employs a lobbyist, lodging and meals generally may be provided only for one night. However, two nights may be authorized by the Committee in accordance with the factors set forth in Committee regulations.
11. *If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip.* House Rules prohibit Members and employees from being accompanied by registered lobbyists or foreign agents while traveling. This rule does not prohibit lobbyist or foreign agent participation in briefings or meetings that occur at the destination.
12. *Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip.* The sponsor(s) (the entity or entities paying for the trip) should be the entity primarily responsible for organizing the trip. Travel may not be accepted from an entity that merely contributes money towards the travel and is not otherwise involved in planning or conducting the trip.
13. *Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip:* Briefly describe the interest or purpose of each sponsor in the trip.
14. *Describe the type and class of transportation being provided:* See directions on form.
15. *I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s):* While Members and staff may accept local transportation necessary in facilitating their participation in officially-connected aspects of a trip, Members and staff may not accept local transportation in connection with recreation or entertainment.
16. *I represent that either:* For events that are arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation (e.g., annual meetings of business or trade associations), Members or employees may accept the meals that are provided to all other attendees as part of the event. For events put on specifically for Members or staff, meal expenses must be "reasonable" in accordance with Committee regulations.

17. *Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:* The destination of a trip must be related to its purpose. Travel to a location of an event organized without regard to congressional participation (for example, annual meetings of business or trade associations) is presumptively reasonable.
18. *Name of hotel or other lodging facility:* Include the names of all hotels and lodging facilities to be used during the trip.
19. *Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility:* Self-explanatory. Trip sponsors should not pay for a "package" that includes recreational or entertainment activities. However, Members and staff may generally use a pool or gym facilities that are offered free of charge to all hotel guests.
20. *Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:* For events held without regard to congressional participation (e.g., annual meetings of business or trade associations), an entry such as "location of annual trade association meeting" is sufficient. When the trip is held specifically for Members or staff, include rationale such as proximity to the site to be visited or to the airport.
21. *Total Expenses for Each Participant:* Indicate whether the figures provided are actual amounts or good faith estimates by checking the appropriate box. All trip expenses should be included. Expenses other than those for transportation, lodging and meals must be individually listed and specified.
22. *I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip:* Members and staff may not accept a lump sum based on an estimate of incidental expenses.
23. *Certification Information:* Self-explanatory.

THE TRIP SPONSOR SHOULD PROVIDE A COPY OF THE COMPLETED FORM, INCLUDING ALL ATTACHMENTS, TO EACH HOUSE MEMBER OR EMPLOYEE INVITED ON THE TRIP.

Version date 4/2007 Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

U.S. House of Representatives

**COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT
Washington, DC 20515**

October 27, 2006

Ms. Michèle Rodney
Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

Dear Ms. Rodney:

This responds to your letter requesting Committee guidance concerning the participation of House Members in the 11th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference ("Conference") sponsored by the Carib News Foundation ("Foundation"), and other organizations. The conference is scheduled to take place in Panama City, Panama from November 9 to 12, 2006. According to your submission, the Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]" which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct strongly encourages outside organizations considering whether to offer travel expenses to House Members and staff to contact our offices for information about the rules governing the acceptance of such an offer. It is important to bear in mind, however, that the Committee is authorized by the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives to render advisory opinions to Members, officers, and employees regarding the propriety of current or proposed conduct. We do not render such opinions to private organizations. Particularly in the case of travel, it is the Member, officer, or employee who is at risk in the case of a violation of the rules. Given the different circumstances in which individual Members and employees find themselves, it would be inappropriate for an outside organization to suggest that a trip had been "pre-cleared" by the Committee. However, we are able to provide you with some general information.

According to your submission, the additional trip sponsors include Macy's, J&J, Pfizer, AT&T, Golden Krust Frenchies, American Airlines, Citibank, IBM, Panama City, and the Republic of Panama.

09-2567 0183

Mr. Michael Rodney
October 27, 2006
Page 2

House Rule 25, clause 5 (the gift rule) permits a Member or employee of the House to accept from a private source (other than a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal) the necessary travel expenses to attend a meeting, speaking engagement, fact-finding trip, or similar event in connection with official duties, if the private source is directly and immediately associated with the event or location being visited. "Necessary" expenses include reasonable expenses for transportation, lodging, food, and refreshments, but they do not include expenditures for entertainment or recreational activities.

Generally, any gifts that may be offered during the trip, including any gifts of entertainment or recreational activity, must be valued at a total of less than \$50 for the trip, with the annual gift limit of less than \$100 from a single source. On any trip, the aggregate value of any such gifts that may be accepted from any source is less than \$50.

In the case of international travel, necessary expenses may be accepted for not more than seven days, excluding travel. House Members may also accept expenses to enable one family member to accompany them on the trip, if offered by the trip sponsor. In addition, each Member who participates in the trip must complete a Travel Disclosure and file this form with the Clerk of the House within 30 days after their return. See House Rule 25, cl. 5(h)(1)(A)(i), (h)(3). Members are also required to report all travel expenses totaling more than \$305 from a single source on Schedule VII of their annual Financial Disclosure Statement under the Ethics in Government Act and House Rule 26. On both forms, Members should indicate as the "trip sponsor" all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip.

Because the trip will involve meetings with foreign governmental representatives and the trip sponsors include the Republic of Panama and Panama City, it is important to note that government officials, including Members and employees of Congress, are prohibited by Article I, section 9, clause 8, of the United States Constitution from receiving "any present . . . of any kind whatsoever" from a foreign state or a representative of a foreign government without the consent of the Congress. In the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (5 U.S.C. § 7342) ("FGDA"), Congress has consented in advance to acceptance of gifts of travel or expenses for travel taking place entirely outside of the United States offered by a foreign government. Gifts of travel or expenses for travel include food, lodging, transportation, and entertainment related to the official duties of a Member, officer, or employee. Congress has also consented to the acceptance of gifts "of minimal value tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy." 5 U.S.C. § 7342(a)(1)(A). Under this provision and implementing regulations issued by this Committee, the term "minimal value" is defined as \$305. The FGDA also permits Members and staff to accept a gift worth more than minimal value when refusal would cause offense or embarrassment; such gifts are the property of the United States and must be deposited with the Clerk of the House. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value or travel expenses of any value received from a foreign government pursuant to FGDA must be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments, in addition to the

09-2567 0184

0007/000

SEAN ARD

03/20/2009 03:43 FAX

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000084

Ms. Michele Rodary
October 27, 2006
Page 3

travel disclosure form described above. Copies of both forms are available on the Committee Web site.

Any House Members invited to travel at private expense should be encouraged to contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at (202) 225-7103 if they have any questions on the applicable rules. Please provide a copy of this letter to each invited Member.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

Don Hastings
Don Hastings
Chairman

Howard L. Berman
Howard L. Berman
Ranking Minority Member

DE/HLR:slc

09-2567 0185

90079000

SHEN 0110

03/20/2009 03:43 FAX



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

October 16, 2006

The Honorable Doc Hastings
Chair
Standards of Official Conduct
Rm. HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Via Fax: 202-225-7392 & US Mail

Dear Committee Chair Hastings:

As you might be aware, The Carib News Foundation, created to provide a forum for businesses from the United States to dialogue and establish business partnerships with communities in other parts of the world, has invited Members of Congress to participate in the 11th anniversary of the Caribbean Business Conference.

This year the conference will be held in Panama City, Panama from November 9 – 12, 2006. In cooperation with the Government of Panama, our goal is to have all interested parties joining forces to foster an atmosphere of democracy, stability and opportunity for our fellow citizens of the world. It will also allow businesses in the United States to introduce their products to a new market, thus adding to the economy of both countries.

It is important for Members of Congress to attend in order to get insights into the global economy and how current law and proposed legislation can add in assisting their constituents to move towards a global exchange.

To this effort, The Carib News Foundation and its Board of Directors, respectfully request approval for the Members to attend. If there are any questions or concerns, you may contact me at 212-944-1991. I look forward to making this event as successful in its 11th year as it has been in the past 10 conferences.

Sincerely,

Michelo Rodney
President
Carib News Foundation

cc: Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs-Jones

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C-3 corporation

09-2567 0186

002/002

SEEN BY: CARIB NEWS

03/20/2009 08:43 FAX

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000086

Registration

From: plouls [plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2007 1:56 PM
To: 'Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Re Sponsorship information

The official sponsor of the conference is the CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION, a not-for-profit 501C3 Organization that provides educational information about the Caribbean Region and its relationship with the US in doing business and developing good neighborly ties with the United States, security, health, education etc.

The CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION does not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent.

Please use me as your contact for the purposes of this Conference.

The form will be emailed to you this afternoon.

Regards

Patricia Louis

Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

9/21/2007

09-2567 0187

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000087

Re: Sponsorship information

Page 1 of 1

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 6:32 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Sponsorship Information

My condolences. No, we did not know of their loss. Is Mr. Rodney our actual contact in this matter? If so when appropriate, please impress upon him that the rules have changed dramatically and there are certain gifts and travel that can no longer be permitted so we need to clear this as early as possible. Moreover as he probably remembers, all Members have to seek approval for their individual travel...forms must be prepared, submitted, and approved for each Member's travel. Therefore, please remember to provide each of your invitees with the requisite paperwork. Hopefully by preparing early, we can circumvent the majority of problems you faced in securing their congressional travel last year. Have a good evening and please share my condolences with the Rodneys. Dawn

Sent using BlackBerry

-----Original Message-----

From: plouis <plouis@nycaribnews.com>
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wed Sep 19 18:23:58 2007
Subject: Sponsorship Information

0/00/0007

09-2567 0188

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000088

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 3:23 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Lastly, just send the sponsor form asap for review. The new rules might prohibit some things you were able to do with so many different sponsors in the past, but until we get the form, we can't make the most informed decision. I have let the Congresswomen know we are awaiting your sponsor form. Just as you do, they would also like assurance. Thank you.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 3:09 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

I am mailing (US Postal) a copy of the official Gifts and Travel Guide. Some pages are omitted so call with any questions not addressed in the bound pages. I am using the address you provide in your email.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 2:16 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Patricia:

I understand that several organizations will take part in sponsoring food and other parts of the Antigua travel. However, I need clarification on the *official* sponsor; that organization providing travel, lodging, and organizing the trip? Am I to assume it is CARIB NEWS? The official sponsoring organization must not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent (and the sponsor must have a direct and immediate relationship with the event or location being visited). To assist with this, I am scanning information/guidelines and emailing in just a moment. Please provide a fax number if that method of submittal will be more helpful. If there is someone handling this matter, please provide me their direct contact information as I must ensure adherence to these new guidelines pre-travel.

In any event, I do need to know who the official sponsor will be. I have assigned a staff attorney to review your documents and will remain in contact with you until this matter is finalized.

Please respond today or tomorrow at the latest. I will be traveling for a while thereafter and must ensure that my staff attorney has all that is necessary for a safe review.

Dawn Kelly Mobley
 Ethics Counsel for Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones
 Chairwoman, Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
 U.S. of Representatives
 Washington, DC 20515
 202/226-7103

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2007 7:03 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

~~Do any of these organizations have a website?~~

Sent using BlackBerry

09-2567 0189

We had received the forms from Shelley.
The sponsors to date are : MACYS, PFIZER, AMERICAN AIRLINES, GOLDEN KRUST BAKERY, CARIBBEAN FOOD DELIGHTS, PREFERRED HEALTH PARTNERS, IBM, AT&T/CINGULAR

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2007 12:57 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

When you send the draft agenda, please also forward any information on your sponsor's status. If/he cannot be a lobbyist. Do you need a copy of the new travel rules?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 5:53 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference

Nothing was attached to this email. Therefore, we have not received the proposed agenda you mention below and have nothing to preview.

From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 3:47 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference

Ms. Mobley:
We spoke earlier re permission for Members to attend the Conference and you asked for The program. I have not gotten back to you because we have been working on getting the program together.
Attached is the draft for your guidance

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

9/20/2007

09-2567 0190

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000090

Exhibit 18

**U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct**

**PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)**

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): EACH REPRESENTATIVE'S SPOUSE
6. Dates of travel: NOVEMBER 8 - 11, 2007
7. Cities of departure -- destination -- return: VARIES DEPENDING ON MEMBER
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
- The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
- One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered:
- If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: _____
CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (SEE ATTACHED SHEET)

13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: _____
THE INTEREST OF CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION IS TO PROMOTE, INFORMATION, TRADE AND MEANINGFUL CONNECTION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE CARIBBEAN

14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted: _____
REGULAR SCHEDULED AIR SERVICE, ECONOMY CLASS

15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):

16. I represent that either (check one of the following):
 - a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: or
 - b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:
 If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____

17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: A CARIBBEAN COUNTRY THAT HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY HOSTED THE CONFERENCE

18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: SANDALS RESORT/REX RESORT

19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$1 0.00

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: HAS APPROPRIATE MEETING ROOMS

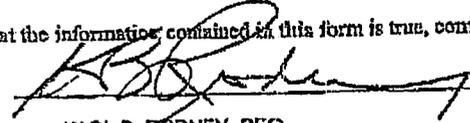
21. **TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:**

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	320	330	115
For each accompanying family member	320	0	115

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee		
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

Address: 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10018

Telephone number: 212-944-1991

Fax number: 212-944-2089

Email Address: CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
 U.S. House of Representatives
 HT-2, The Capitol
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)
 (202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

2007 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE				
NOVEMBER 8-11, 2007				
INVITED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS				
Sanford Bishop				
G. K. Butterfield				
Donna M. Christensen				
William Lacy Clay				
Sheila Jackson Lee				
Eddie Bernice Johnson				
Kendrick Meek				
Donald Payne				
Charles Rangel				
Bennie Thompson				
Stephanie Tubbs-Jones				
Carolyn Kilpatrick				
Barbara Lee				
Gregory Meeks				
Edolphus Towns				
Yvette Clarke				
Maxine Waters				
James Clyburn				
David Scott				
Laura Richardson				
Eleanor Holmes-Norton				
Elijah Cummings				
Diane Watson				
Keith Ellison				
Henry Johnson				
Melvin Watt				
Albert Wynn				
John Lewis				

2007 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE			
NOVEMBER 8-11, 2007			
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Carolyn Kilpatrick			
Barbara Lee			
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Yvette Clarke			
Maxine Waters			
James Clyburn			
David Scott			
Laura Richardson			
Eleanor Holmes-Norton			
Hijah Cummings			
Diane Watson			
Keith Ellison			
Henry Johnson			
Melvin Watt			
Albert Wynn			
John Lewis			
Britt Wainstock			
George Dalley			



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

Exhibit 19

WORKING DRAFT

12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
Antigua & Barbuda

Thursday November 8, 2007

12:00 noon - 5:00 pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -

4:00 - 5:30 pm : COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Venue

Theme

Speakers

WTO - RULES BASED TRADE & POVERTY REDUCTION

Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Hon. Dr. Ferrol Cort - Minister of Finance & The Economy

Moderator

Facilitator

Sponsor

ED

Wallace Ford

MEC Interns

6:30 - 7:30 pm

Venue:

Theme:

Sponsor

OPENING RECEPTION

Sandals Grandt

CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES

Antigua Government

Theme: CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES, COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Sponsor: CITI/PHIZ/MACY/AT&T

Invocation:

Anthems:

Speakers: Eric Ewe

Karen Roykin-Towns

Ed Goldberg

Marie Long

Hazel Dukes - NAAUP

Speakers: Hon. Jiroi Cort - Minister of Finance & The Economy

Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress

Ambassador Andrew Young

Hon. Louise Lake Tack - Governor General of Antigua

OR

Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Ribbon Cutting

10:30am - 11:45am - PRESENTATION

Theme: DEVELOPMENT BANKS, PRIVATE DEBT AND EQUITY

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsors:

CITI

Chair/Moderator:

Jacqueline Ebanks

Speaker:

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Hon. William Lacy Clay - Member of Congress

Hon. Compton Rouse - President, CDB

Caribbean Minister of Finance - TFD

12:00noon - 1:15pm

Theme: NATIONAL SECURITY : A PRE-CONDITION FOR SUCCESS

Venue:

Sandals Grande

Sponsors:

HSBC

Moderator:

Dr. Basti Wilson

Remarks:

Reginald Canal

Keynote Speaker:

Hon. Rennie Thompson - Member of Congress

Panelists:

Hon. William Lacy Clay Jr. - Member of Congress

Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Hon. Colin V. A. Derrick - Minister of Justice

Attorney Sanford Rubenstein

1:00pm - 1:15pm

EDUCATION - US AND CARIBBEAN SYNERGISTICS

OVERCOME - CHALLENGES

Sponsors - IBM

Remarks - Marilyn Johnson

Speakers - Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President Medgar Evers College

Hon. Donald Payne - Member of Congress

Hon. Bertrand Joseph

Hon. G. K. Butterfield - Member of Congress

1:30 - 2:00 p.m.

LUNCHEON

Theme - CARIBBEAN TRADE COMPETITIVENESS AND POSITIONING

Venue - Sandals Grande

Sponsors - Goodworks International

Remarks - Carlton Masters

Keynote Speaker - Hon. Billie Miller - Minister of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade

Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

3:00pm - 4:00pm

ROUND TABLES

IMMIGRATION

Venue

Moderator

Speaker

DFMico Mason

Hon. Sheila Jackson Lee - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Hon. Kendall Stewart - City Council member

Sponsor

Royal Caribbean Bakery

DIVERSITY IN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

MACY'S - Outside Vendors

Ed Goldberg

Cheryl Monroe

State Senator Kevin Parker

City Council member Myann

Sponsor

MACY'S

HAJJI - IN TRANSFORMATION

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvonne Graham

Preferred Health Partners

PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - ITU MANDATES

Moderator :

Lance Ogiste

Hon. Bennie Thompson

Dr. Basil Wilson

Venue:

Sponsor:

Preferred Health Partners

Speakers:

Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress

Hon. Eliot Engel - Member of Congress

CARICOM Rep. - JBD

Venue:

Sponsor:

Goodworks International

Speaker:

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress
CARICOM REP. - TRD

4:00pm - 5:30pm

Venue:

Off Site

Theme:

HEALTH - COMMON ISSUES - PROVEN SOLUTIONS

Sponsor:

Pfizer

Remarks:

Karen Boykin-Town

Moderator:

Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

Keynote Speakers: Dr. Dennis Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis
Hon. Dr. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress
Hon. John Herbert Maginley - Minister of Health, Sports & Youth
Dr. Dexter McKenzie

Facilitator - MEC Intern

6:30:00pm - 10:00 pm - HOSE COUNTRY EVENING

Hosted by Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer

MANDATORY FOR ALL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO ATTEND

Venue - Off Site

Sponsor - Antigua & Barbuda

10:00pm - 1:00am - Hospitality Area

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsor: Golden Krust

Saturday, November 10, 2007

8:00am - 10:00am

Venue: Sandals Grande

Theme: WOMEN AND EMPOWERMENT IN THE DIASPORA

Sponsors: MACYS

Remarks - Brenda Scott - Macy's

MC - Marilyn Johnson

Speakers - Michele Obama (invited)

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Hon. Diane Abbott - Member of Parliament, UK

Baroness Patricia Scotland - Attorney General, UK (invited)

Harriet Michel - President (NMSDC)

Governor General - Dame Louise Jackson

10:15am - 11:45pm - PRESENTATION

Theme - HEALTH - REAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN UPGRADING CARE AND DELIVERY

Venue - Sandals Grande

Sponsors - Pfizer

Greeting - Karen Boykin-Townes - Pfizer

Chair/Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham

Keynote - Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Panelists - Dr. Dexter McKenzie

Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Dr. Lesly Kernisan

Dr. Marcia Rayne-Smith

Caribbean person - TBD

10:15am - 11:45am

TRAVEL & TOURISM EXPANSION - THE DISCOVERY

CATALYST

Venue

Sponsors

AMERICAN AIRLINES/SANDALS

Chair/Moderator

Eloy Williams

Speakers

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress

Hon. Keith Ellison - Member of Congress

Hon. Allan Chastanet - Minister of Tourism, St. Lucia

Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Tourism, Antigua & Barbuda

10:15-am-11:45am - REPRESENTATION

Theme

TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION - SHARING

Venue

Sandals Grande

Sponsors

AT&T

Remarks

Marie Long

Keynote Speakers:

Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Dr. Edmond Mansourn - Member of State

12:00noon - 1:15pm -

Theme: INTEGRATING THE DIASPORA IN BUSINESS - INVESTORS
MANAGERS, MENTORS & TRAINERS

Venue: Sands Grande

Sponsor: HSRC

Remarks: Jim Givens

Speakers: Hon. Compton Bourne

Pr. Roy Foster

Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress

Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress

Hon. William Lacy Clay Jr. - Member of Congress

1:30pm - 2:30pm LUNCHEON

Theme: FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

AND ROLE

Sponsors: Citi

Remarks: Michael Hanigan

Speakers: Eric Eve - Citi

Hon. William Thompson, New York City Comptroller

2:30pm - 6:30pm

Optional:

3:00pm - 4:00pm ROUND TABLE

Venue
Round Table #1
THE CARIBBEAN A COMPLETE HEALTH CARE DEFINITION
Venue

Sponsors
Preferred Health Partners
Remarks
Dr. Lesly Kernsani
Speakers
Dr. Dexter McKenzie
Dr. Larra McBurnette

Round Table #2

Theme
HEMISPHERIC DISASTER FUND

Speakers
Hon. Danny Davis - Member of Congress
Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
Dr. Roy Hastick

Venue
Sponsor

Round Table #3

Theme
CLOSING THE GENERATION GAP
Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress
Karlisa Rodney
Ula Balram

Sabrina Hosang

Wintrop Wellington

Venue

SPONSOR

Roundtable #4

Theme

Venue

PASSPORT - & ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRAINTS ON TOURISM

Sponsor : American Airlines

Speakers

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress
Hon. Harold Lowell - Minister of Tourism
Mr. Howard Williams

Sponsor

CARIB NEWS

4:00pm - 5:30pm

COMMUNITY OUTREACH -

EDUCATION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION

Venue:

Off Site

Sponsor

CITI

Moderator:

Michael Flanigan

Speakers:

Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College

Hon. Danny Davis - Member of Congress

Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Hon. Bertrand Joseph

Facilitator: MEC Intern

ED

6:30 - 7:30pm

GALA RECEPTIONS

Venue:

Sponsor: AT&T-HSBC

Speaker: Hon. Billie Miller, Minister of Foreign Affairs,

Minister of Government .. Antigua

Theme:

7:30 - 10:00 pm

GALA DINNER & AWARDS

Theme:

Venue :

Sponsors :

CITY/MACY'S/PHIZER

Speakers :

Hon. Charles Kangel - Member of Congress

Hon. James Clyburn - Member of Congress

Keynote Speaker : Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Presentation of the Marcus Garvey "Bridge Builder" Awards

Hospitality Area

10:30pm - 1:00am

Venue:

Sponsor:

Royal Caribbean Bakery

Sunday November 11, 2007

8:30 am - 10:00 am

POWER BREAKFAST

Theme

UNDERSTANDING THE SPIRITUAL ROOTS AND
MAKING IT WORK

Sponsors:

Golden Krust/Macys

Celebrant:

Eid Goldberg

Lowell Hawthorne

Caribbean person - TBD

Selection

Theme:

Selection:

11:00am

Paid Trip to Montserrat - Transportation (ferry) - Lunch and
Special Tour - Addressed by Chief Minister Lowell Lewis

8:00 pm

10/3/07

OFF-PUBLIC-SCHEDULE-MANDATORY FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Friday November 9, 2007

5:30 - 6:30 p.m. - Private Welcome Reception with Governor General

Saturday November 10, 2007

US-CARIBBEAN RELATIONS

11:00 a.m. - 1:00pm - Closed Door Meeting

(Mandatory for all Members)

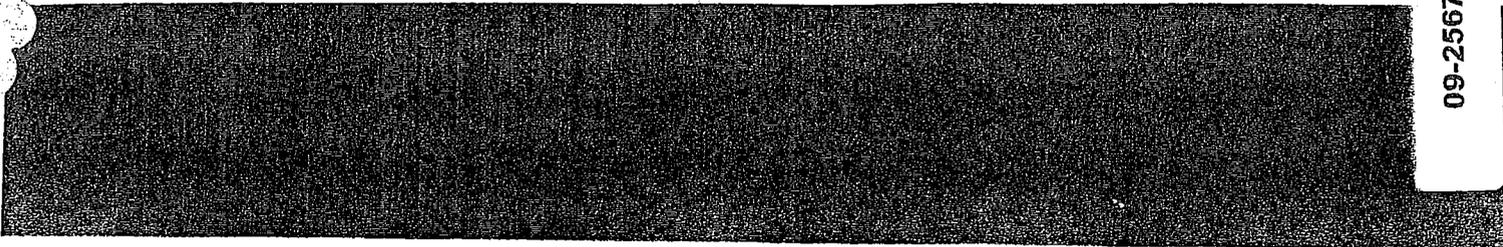
Prime Ministers & Ministers of Government

with Members of Congress

Secretary of State - Condoleezza Rice (Invited)

5:30pm - 6:30pm

Private Meeting with Local Elected Officials and the Business Community



[The text in this section is almost entirely obscured by heavy horizontal black redaction bars. Only faint, illegible lines of text are visible through the gaps.]

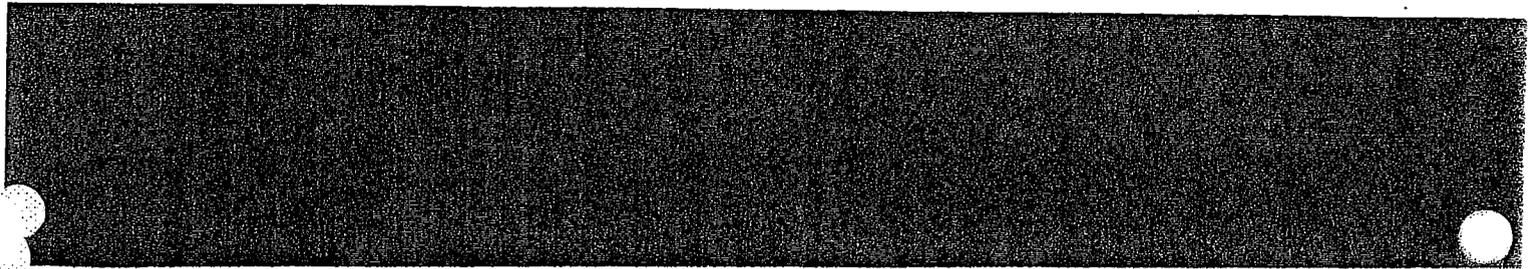


Exhibit 20

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative 1 from Macy's
Review #: 09-6333; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-2222
Date: May 27, 2009
Location: 11 Penn Plaza
New York, NY 10001
Time: 11:10pm to 12:00 p.m. (approximately)
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: Representative 1 from Macy's is the Senior Vice President of Government and Consumer Affairs and Diversity Vendor Development at Macy's, Inc. He was interviewed pursuant to Review 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. We requested an interview with Representative 1 from Macy's and he consented to an interview. Representative 1 from Macy's made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative 1 from Macy's was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. Representative 1 from Macy's signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. [attached]
2. Representative 1 from Macy's met Karl and Faye Rodney in 1996. As a result of the large Caribbean Community in New York City and Macy's commercial interests in the Caribbean region, Representative 1 from Macy's asked Macy's advertizing division to consider the CaribNews newspaper.
3. The first conference he attended was in 1998 in St. Lucia. He attended as a participant. At the time, Macy's was considering a store in Puerto Rico and so Representative 1 from Macy's was especially interested in business in the region. He was impressed by how many government officials from the Caribbean region were present at the conference and by what they had to say about developing relationships with the United States.

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

4. In the ensuing years, Macy's became a sponsor. The conference was a place where the company looked for vendors and designers. It was also a place where they could hear from U.S. legislators about their thoughts on the region. It was also a place for Representative 1 from Macy's to connect with U.S. companies who were attending.
5. Macy's first sponsored the conference in 2000. Over the years they have sponsored the event on an annual basis at varying levels, ranging from \$10,000 to \$35,000. As women's issues are particularly important to Macy's, given their clientele, their sponsorship focuses on the conference's "Women's Power Breakfast." The event was described as very lavish. All attendee of the breakfast also get a Macy's tote bag.
6. In 2008, Macy's contribution to the conference was \$35,000 is cash and an in-kind contribution of 400 tote bags. The total value of the in-kind contribution was \$4,620. The money was earmarked specifically for the conference.
7. As a sponsor, Macy's was given the opportunity to have a representative make opening remarks, to have representation at the Women's Power Breakfast, have input into who the speaker at the breakfast will be, and attend the closed door session with Members of Congress and officials from the Caribbean governments. Representative 1 from Macy's did in fact attend the closed door session in 2008. He recalled that other corporate sponsors also attended the meeting, but he could not recall which ones.
8. Representative 1 from Macy's recalled interacting with Representative Payne, Representative Kilpatrick, Representative Thompson, Representative Rangel, and Delegate Christensen. His interactions were all social in nature.
9. Representative 1 from Macy's was not aware of any other events sponsored by or planned by the CaribNews Foundation. With the exception of the conference, he was not aware of any other instances when Macy's supported a CaribNews Foundation event. Given Representative 1 from Macy's position within the company, it is very likely he would know if Macy's had done so.

I prepared this Memorandum of Interview on May 28, 2009 after interviewing Representative 1 from Macy's on May 27, 2009. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with Representative 1 from Macy's on May 27, 2009.

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

5/29/08

For Office Use: _____

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 21

Updated Schedule
for Carib News
PAGE 03

WORKING DRAFT 10/22

12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
Antigua & Barbuda

Thursday, November 8, 2007

12:00noon- 6:00pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -

8:00 - 6:30am - COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM
Venue - Multi-Purpose Cultural Centre - Perry Bay, St. John's
Theme - WTO -RULES BASED TRADE & POVERTY REDUCTION
Speakers - Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress
Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
Hon. Dr. Errol Cort - Minister of Finance & The Economy
Moderator - Tony Best

6:30-7:30pm - OPENING RECEPTION
Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom
Theme: - CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES
MC: - Judge Sylvia Hinds-Radix
Speakers - Faye A. Rodney - President CARIB NEWS
Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

7:30 - 9:30 pm -
Theme: - COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Moderator: - Hon. Nick Perry, New York State Assemblyman

Speakers: - Hon. 'Butch' Stewart, Chairman, Sandals
 Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress
 Hon. Harold Lovell - Minister of Tourism & Aviation

10:00pm - 1:00am: - Hospitality Area

Venue: Sandals Grande - Reflective Pool

Friday, November 9, 2007

8:00am - 8:45am BREAKFAST - Buffet Style

9:00am - 6:00pm	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
-----------------	-------------------------

9:00am - 10:15am - OPENING CEREMONIES

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Theme: - CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES, COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Remarks:

- Eric Bye
- Dr. Lowell Lewis, Chief Minister
 Montserrat
- Karen Boykin-Towns
- Ed Goldberg
- Marie Long
- Hazel Dukes - NAACP
- William Thompson, NYC Comptroller
- Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Govt. St. Maarten

Greetings

Speakers: Hon. Axel Corti - Minister of Finance & The Economy
 Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress
 Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress

Ambassador Andrew Young
Hon. Louise Lake-Tack - Governor General of Antigua
OR
Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Ribbon Cutting

10:30am - 11:45am - PRESENTATION
Theme: - DEVELOPMENT BANKS, PRIVATE DEBT AND EQUITY
Venue: - Sandals Grande
Chair/Moderator - Dr. Enrique Riggs
Speaker: Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
Hon. Compton Bourne - President, CDB
Mr. Milton Lawrence, Chairman Financial Services Corporation
Mr. Rudolph Caryl
Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister/Minister of Finance, St. Kitts

10:30 - 11:45am CULTURE - PROMISE & POTENTIAL IN BUSINESS
Remarks :
Speaker: Professor Rex. Nettleford
Hon. Howard Dotson
Patrick Payne
Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Culture

12:00noon - 1:15pm
Theme: - NATIONAL SECURITY: A PRE-CONDITION FOR SUCCESS
Venue: - Sandals Grande
Moderator - Leyland Hazlewood
Remarks: - Reginald Canal

Keynote Speaker: Hon. Bernice Thompson - Member of Congress
Panelists: - Hon. Dwyer Astaphan, Minister of National Security
Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
Hon. Colin V. A. Derrick - Minister of Justice
Attorney Sanford Rubenstein

12:00noon - 1:15pm

Theme - EDUCATION - U. S AND CARIBBEAN SYNERGIES TO
OVERCOME CHALLENGES

Remarks - Colin Ward

Speakers - Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President Medgar Evers College
Hon. Donald Payne - Member of Congress
Hon. Bertrand Joseph, Minister of Education

1:30pm - 2:30pm - LUNCHEON

Theme: - FINANCE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION'S - VALUE
AND ROLE

Remarks - Michael Marigan

Speakers - Eric Ives - CITI
Hon. William Thompson, New York City Comptroller

3:00pm - 4:00pm - ROUND TABLES

IMMIGRATION -

Venue: - Sandals Grande

Moderator - Dr. Marco Mason

Speakers - Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress
 Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
 Hon. Kendall Stewart - City Council member

DIVERSITY IN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

MACY'S - Outside Vendors

Ed Goldberg
 Cheryl Monroe
 State Senator Kevin Parker
 City Councilmember Inez Dickens

HAITI - IN TRANSFORMATION

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
 Hon. Yvonne Graham
 Ambassador Andrew Young

PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES

Moderator : Mr. Lucas Ogiste
 Hon. Bernice Thompson
 Hon. Dwer Aelaphan

Venue Sandals Grande

Participant - Preferred Health Partners

Speakers - Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress

Venue

Speaker - Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress ?
CARICOM REP. - FDD

5:00pm - 6:30pm -
Venue: - Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Centre - Ferry Bay

Theme - HEALTH - COMMON ISSUES - PROVEN SOLUTIONS - MOVE
Healthy Eating, Healthy Living

Remarks - Ms. Karen Hoykin-Towne

Moderator - Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

Keynote Speakers: - Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis
Hon. Dr. Martin Valdes-Preferred Health Partners
Hon. John Herbert Maginley - Minister of Health, Sports & Youth
Dr. John Palmer
Hon. Diane Watson, Member of Congress

6:30:00pm - 10:00 pm - BEST COUNTRY EVENING
Hosted by Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer

Venue - Multipurpose Cultural and Exhibition Centre - Ferry Bay

10:00pm - 1:00am - Hospitality Area

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Reflection Pool

Saturday, November 10, 2007

8:00am - 10:00am

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Theme: " WOMEN AND EMPOWERMENT IN THE DIASPORA

Remarks - Brenda Scott

MC - Marilyn Johnson

Speakers - Hon. Diane Abbott, MP UK
Commissioner Sarah Westcot-Williams,
Hon. Caroline Cheeks Kipatrick, Member of Congress
Hon. Edna Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress
Dr. Marcella Maxwell
Ms. Toni Fay
Governor Constal - Dame Louise Lake Tak - check
Ms. Lucille McEwen, President/CEO ICL
Commissioner Wescot-Williams, Leader of Government

10:15am - 11:45pm - PRESENTATION

Theme - HEALTH - REAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN UPGRADING
CARE AND DELIVERY

Venue - Sandals Grande

Greeting - Karen Boykin-Towns - Pfizer

Chair/Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham

Keynote - Dr. Dearth Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Venue - Sandals Grande
 Moderator - Roy Hastick
 Participant - HSBC
 Remarks - Mr. Javier Evans
 Speakers - Hon. Compton Boume
 Hon. Adolfe Carrion, Bronx Borough President
 Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress
 Hon. Professor Rex Nettleford

1:30 - 2:00 pm. - LUNCH

Theme - CARIBBEAN TRADE COMPETITIVENESS AND POSITIONING

Venue - Sandals Grande
 Remarks - Wallace Ford - Goodworks International
 Keynote Speaker - Hon. Billie Miller - Minister of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade
 Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

2:30pm - 6:30pm

Optional

3:00pm - 4:00pm - ROUND TABLE

Venue - Sandals Grande

Round Table #1

Theme : CARIBBEAN - A COMPETITIVE HEALTH CARE DESTINATION

Venue

Remarks : Dr. Lesly Kennisant

Speakers : Dr. Dexter McKenzie
Hon. Yvonne Graham

Round Table#2

Theme - HEMISPHERIC DISASTER FUND

Venue - Sandals Grande

Speakers Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
Mr. Leyland Hazlewood
Mr. Emmanuel Gonsalves

Participant -

Round Table#3

Theme - CLOSING THE GENERATION GAP

Speaker - Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
Karlisa Rodney
Lisa Bakran
Sabrina Hosang
Winthrop Wellington

Venue - Sandals Grande

Participant -

Round Table #4

Theme : PASSPORT & ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRAINTS ON TOURISM

Venue : Sandals Grande

Speakers : Hon. Harold Lovell - Minister of Tourism
Mr. Lloyd Williams, GHCC
Hon. Darryl Towns, State Assemblyman

5:00pm - 6:30pm - COMMUNITY OUTREACH -

EDUCATION & YOUTH DIRECTION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION

Venue : Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Centre

Moderator : Michael Hanigan

Speakers : Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College
Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress
Hon. Bertrand Joseph

6:30 - 7:30pm - GALA RECEPTION

Venue : Sandals Grande

Speaker : Hon. Stephanie Tubbs-Jones, Member of Congress
Hon. Billie Miller, Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Minister of Government ... Antigua

Theme:

7:30 - 10:00 pm : GALA DINNER & AWARDS
 Theme :
 Venue : Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom
 Speakers : Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress
 Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
 Keynote Speaker : Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer
 Presentation of the Marcus Garvey "Bridge Builder" Awards

Hospitality Area

10:30pm - 1:00am

Venue:

Sunday, November 11, 2007

8:30 am - 10:00am - POWER BREAKFAST
 Theme - UNDERSTANDING THE SPIRITUAL ROOTS AND
 MAKING IT WORK
 Celebrant - Ed Goldberg
 Lowell Hawthorne
 Caribbean person - TBD

Selection

Theme:

Selection:

10/16/07

12

Exhibit 22

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office
Review #: 09-6333; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-2222
Date: May 27, 2009 and May 28, 2009
Location: Washington, DC (via telephone on May 27, 2009) and at Rayburn HOB 354 (on May 28, 2009)
Time: 4:10pm to 5:30 p.m. (approximately) and 3:30pm to 4:00pm (approximately)
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office is currently the chief of staff of Representative Charles Rangel, a Member of the United States House of Representatives representing the Fifteenth District of New York. He was interviewed pursuant to Review 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. We requested an interview with Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and he consented to an interview. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office's counsel was present. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. [attached]
2. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not attend the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference although he received an invitation. In response to a Request for Information by OCE, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office looked for Representative Rangel's invitation to the conference, but could not find it. He had thought Representative Rangel had received one, but because he could not find the invitation he now thinks that Representative Rangel did not receive one.

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3. Representative Rangel could have been invited orally as he has been attending the conference for years and was seen almost as a partner. He attends the conference because he is dedicated to strengthening the relationships between the Caribbean community, the African-American community of New York City and in general, and the United States.
4. The question of whether Representative Rangel would attend the conference in 2008 was a difficult one because of the negative press he had received throughout the preceding summer. Representative Rangel was cautious about attending because he didn't want to be a target for additional negative publicity, but Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and others on the Member's staff argued that he should go to the conference. They argued that if Representative Rangel did not attend he would be rejecting the friends with whom he helped build the conference and that the Member had to stand up and do the right thing despite the possible negative publicity.
5. Ultimately, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and his staff persuaded the Member to attend. Representative Rangel decided to keep a low profile and, unlike in past years, staff would not attend the conference with the Member.
6. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that the CaribNews Foundation invited the Member. The CaribNews Foundation is the charitable arm of the newspaper. When the rules changed in 2007 and corporations could not be involved as before – i.e. direct contributions to the conference – there was “talk” about how to do the conference in light of the new rules.
7. According to Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office, there was “talk” that the Rodneys needed an entity to create a common fund so that the corporate money could be used to pay for the conference and that the CaribNews Foundation could be used for that purpose.
8. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office initially stated that he did not remember how he was aware of this “talk.” He stated that part of it was his reading of the rules and the supplemental material about how things get done. He then stated that “we” celebrated when Representative Susan Tubbs-Jones was made the chair of the Standards Committee in 2007 because she would try to create a way for Members of Congress to continue to attend the conference. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office then stated that he was made aware of the “talk” through the Rodneys and that the Rodneys told Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office that Representative Tubbs-Jones was going to have her counsel, Dawn Kelly-Mobley, find a way to make the conference work. The Members would have a few more hoops to go through but “we” would find a

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- way. Representative Tubbs-Jones would let Ms. Mobley know the conference was a priority and tell her to make it possible. Representative Tubbs-Jones made Ms. Mobley the point of contact on the issue of the conference.
9. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that Representative Rangel also mentioned that Representative Tubbs-Jones told him something similar. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that there was talk about "keeping the conference going." He also stated that "They gave us the framework to keep the conference going." "They" referred to Ms. Mobley and Representative Tubbs-Jones.
 10. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember any specific conversations with Ms. Mobley, but he would have had them because he would have wanted to make sure he followed her advice. He stated that the 2007 conversations about Standards Committee finding a way to keep the conference going may have also been with Patricia Louis, the Rodneys office manager.
 11. Regarding the structure of the CaribNews Foundation, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office said that the role of the foundation was more formalized as a way to handle the new rules and that it would have come from the Standards Committee staff. The Rodneys were the first people to describe the new structure to Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office following their conversation with Ms. Mobley. The Rodneys told Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office that they could easily comply because they had always done the conference through the foundation. The Rodneys told him that it should have always been called the CaribNews Foundation's conference.
 12. Before 2007, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office new that the corporations had a role in the conference because the format was in part to bring businesses together. Members of Congress would talk policy, but the Members' presence was the glamour part of the conference and a way to attract more people. However, policy was not the central focus of the conference. The central focus of the conference was business and increasing investment in the region. The Members of Congress drew government officials from the various Caribbean governments and these government officials drew the businesses.
 13. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was aware the involvement of other corporations like AT&T, Macy's, Citi, etc because they were pretty consistent supports of the conference. It was clear they were supporters of the conference financially.

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14. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not talk to Representative Rangel about these matters because the Member does not require that level of detail and does not typically ask for specifics.
15. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember how he became aware of the 2007 rule changes and did not remember attending any briefings or training about the new rules. He thought he was aware of the limits on the number of days a Member could attend an event paid for by an entity that employs a lobbyist, but he was not certain. Mr. Daley did not think he was aware of rules that made an entity that earmarked money for a trip a sponsor of that trip.
16. In response to the question: At the time of the 2007/2008 conferences, how sponsor was defined? Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that the New York CaribNews Foundation was the sponsor of the conference because they were putting on the conference with money from a general fund that would pay for the conference. At that time he became conscious of a need for a 501(c)(3) to be the sponsor.
17. Over the course of several phone calls—most often with Patricia Louis and Faye Rodney, Karl Rodney's wife—Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office learned that the CaribNews Foundation was going to raise money from their traditional donors and other entities.
18. The government of St. Maarten was the lynchpin of the 2008 conference. They were the conference's host and they had specific requirements, as host, that were financial in nature. For instance, when a host government owns a conference center and/or hotel then they give the rooms and conference space for free. If they do not own space, then they have to arrange with a hotel to give rooms and space to the conference at an affordable amount. Other host government support includes police escorts, airport greeting services, and security services. They also host an opening reception and key components of the conference.
19. Although it was not typical, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office became the scheduler for Representative Rangel's travel to the conference in 2008 because he played a part in convincing him to go. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office made the reservations for the Member, but did not remember how he did it or whether the Representative had an e-ticket or a ticket in some other form. He did not remember receiving any airline itinerary documents, but it would have been common practice for him to receive one.

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20. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was shown the pre-travel clearance form submitted to the Standards Committee and stated that he filled it out and the Member signed it. He was shown the post-travel disclosure forms that were submitted to the Standards Committee and stated that he filled them out and the Representative signed them.
21. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office initially said he got the information to fill out the post-travel forms from the Rodneys and stated that he remembered getting a memo from the Rodneys with the cost of the various aspects of the trip on it and that the memo was where he got the dollar amounts for the post-travel forms. He was then asked to explain why the numbers on the post-travel form matched the pre-travel form and not the memo from the Rodneys. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office then said that he could not say for sure that he got the numbers from the memo. He did not remember if the numbers were from the memo or from the pre-travel forms. He was not sure if he checked the cost of the airfare against the airline tickets or if he got it from the pre-travel documents or from the memo.
22. Generally speaking, however, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office would not look behind the numbers given by the Rodneys. He would assume the Rodneys were accurate. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was not certain how it was done, but thought that the accounting for the conference was simple and the information for each Member would be the same. He did not ask the Rodneys for supporting documentation for the numbers on the memo.
23. After the conference, he spoke to Representative Rangel generally about the event. When the article by Susan Crabtree was published there was a lot of talk about the subject of the article with several people. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember with whom he spoke. He then said that he spoke with the Rodneys and the Member. Overall there was an opinion that there could not be anything substantive to the article because the travel was approved by the Standards Committee. It was true that the corporations were at the conference, but they did not have anything to do with their Washington, DC agenda because that's not who attended the conference. His conversations with Representative Rangel were brief and were limited to reassuring him that the office followed the rules and got approval for the travel.
24. After the OCE review was initiated Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office called other members of the Congressional Black Caucus. Representative Rangel asked him to make the calls and to tell them that he would stand by them and offered his help.

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25. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office recalled a conversation with Representative Carolyn Kilpatrick's chief of staff, Kim Rudolph. Ms. Rudolph addressed the comments that Representative Kilpatrick made in which she thanked the sponsors of the conference. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office explained Representative Kilpatrick's statements to OCE by saying that that regardless of who the real sponsor of the event was, when Members thank the corporations it helps the Rodneys put on the conference -- even if the sponsors are not sponsors under the rule. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office also remembered speaking to Shelly Thomas, Delegate Donna Christensen's scheduler, but did not recall the specifics of the conversation.
26. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was not aware of any limits on a private foundation paying for overseas travel. He did not know whether the CaribNews Foundation was a private foundation or a public charity.
27. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was shown a copy of Congressman Rangel's itinerary and a receipt for an electronic ticket. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that he did not remember seeing it before, but that the itinerary was the type of document that would typically be placed in the Congressman's briefing book so that he could provide the information at the airport in order to get his ticket. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office also pointed out that the receipt for the electronic ticket was the sort of document that would only be provided after the Congressman checked in for his flight.

I prepared this Memorandum of Interview on May 28, 2009 after interviewing Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office on May 27, 2009. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office on May 27, 2009.

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

Exhibit 23



**THE NEW YORK
CARIBNEWS**
THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 81 FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: **Kelly Mobley** FROM: **Patricia Louis**
COMPANY: **Committee on Standards of official conduct** DATE: **8/20/08**
FAX NUMBER: **202-225-7392** TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: **2008 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE**

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Following is the completed form and attachments re travel for Members of Congress to attend the 2008 Multinational Business Conference scheduled for November 6-9, 2008 in St. Maarten.

Regards

09-2567 0247

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CN-000112



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

09-2567 0248

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CN-000113

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): BASED ON COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE WHICH IMPACTS US/CARIBBEAN RELATIONS ON WHICH THE MEMBER SERVES.
6. Dates of travel: NOVEMBER 8-9, 2008
7. Cities of departure - destination - return: VARIES - DEPENDING ON MEMBER
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
- a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
- a. One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered:
- If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

09-2567 0249

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CN-000114

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: _____
CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (* SEE ATTACHED)
13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: _____
THE INTEREST OF CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION IS TO PROMOTE, INFORM, TRADE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE U.S AND THE CARIBBEAN
14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted: _____
REGULAR SCHEDULED AIR SERVICE, ECONOMY CLASS
15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):
16. I represent that either (check one of the following):
 a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: or
 b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation:
 If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____
17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: SEE ATTACHED
18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: SONESTA MAHO BEACH RESORT
19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$110.00
20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: HAS APPROPRIATE MEETING ROOMS

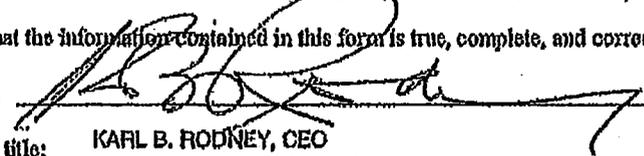
21. **TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:**

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	410	260	145
For each accompanying family member	410	0	145

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$150 \$ 25	Conference Registration Local transportation
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
 Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO
 Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
 Address: 7 WEST 36th STREET, 8th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018
 Telephone number: (212) 944-1991
 Fax number: (212) 944-2089
 Email Address: CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
 U.S. House of Representatives
 HT-2, The Capitol
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)
 (202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INVITED TO THE
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS
CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 6-9, 2008, ST. MAARTEN, N.A.

Congresswoman Diane E. Watson
Congressman David Scott
Congressman James Clyburn
Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez
Congressman Charles Rangel
Congressman Donald Payne
Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
Congressman Edolphus Towns
Congressman G. K. Butterfield
Congressman Gregory Meeks
Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.
Congressman Keith Ellison
Congressman Kendrick Meek
Congresswoman Maxine Waters
Congressman Melvin Watt
Congressman Robert Scott
Congressman William Lacy Clay
Congresswoman Barbara Lee
Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
Congresswoman Corrine Brown
Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
Congressman Danny Davis
Congressman Bennie Thompson
Congresswoman Laura Richardson

July 2008

09-2567 0252

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CN-000117



Carib News Foundation

7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017

Tel: (212) 944-1999; Fax: (212) 944-2089

E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Item#17

A Caribbean country whose proximity to other Caribbean Countries makes it conveniently located for delegates from the other Caribbean countries to attend.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

09-2567 0253

**MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INVITED TO THE
13th Annual Multinational Business Conference
St. Maarten, November 6-9, 2008**

**Congressman William Lacy Clay
U.S House of Representatives
131 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2406
Fax: 202-226-3717**

**Congresswoman Diane E. Watson
US House of Representatives
125 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7084
Fax: 202-225-2422**

**Congressman Kendrick Meek
U.S House of Representatives
1039 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-4506
Fax: 202-226-0777**

**Congressman David Scott
U.S House of Representatives
417 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2929
Fax: 202-225-4268**

**Congressman James Clyburn
US House of Representatives
2135 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3315
Fax: 202-225-9253**

**Congressman Robert Scott
U.S House of Representatives
1201 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-8351
Fax: 202-225-8354**

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Congresswoman Nydia Velaquez
U.S House of Representatives
2241 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2361
Fax: 202-226-0327

Congressman Charles Rangel
U.S House of Representatives
2354 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515-3215
Phone: 202-225-4365
Fax: 202-225-0186

Congressman Donald Payne
U.S House of Representatives
2209 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3436
Fax: 202-225-4160

Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
U.S House of Representatives
1510 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-1790
Fax: 202-225-5517

Congressman Edolphus Towns
U.S House of Representatives
2232 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-5936
Fax: 202-225-6018

Congressman G. K. Butterfield
U.S House of Representatives
413 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3101
Fax: 202-225-2256

Congressman Gregory Meeks
U.S House of Representatives
1710 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3461
Fax: 202-225-4169

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Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.
U.S House of Representatives
2419 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-0779
Fax: 202-225-0899

Congressman Keith Ellison
U.S House of Representatives
1130 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-4755
Fax: 202-225-4886

Congressman Kendrick Meek
U.S House of Representatives
1099 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-4506
Fax: 202-225-0777

Congresswoman Maxine Waters
U.S House of Representatives
2324 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2201
Fax: 202-225-7854

Congressman Melvin Watt
U.S House of Representatives
2236 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-1510
Fax: 202-225-1512

Congresswoman Barbara Lee
U.S House of Representatives
2444 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2661
Fax: 202-225-9817

Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
U.S House of Representatives
1610 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2261
Fax: 202-225-5730

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3

Congresswoman Corrine Brown
U.S House of Representatives
2444 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-0123
Fax: 202-225-2256

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
U.S House of Representatives
1511 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-8886
Fax: 202-2256-1477

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
U.S House of Representatives
410 Canon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3816
Fax: 202-225-3317

Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
U.S House of Representatives
1029 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-6231
Fax: 202-2256-0112

Congressman Danny Davis
U.S House of Representatives
1222 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-5006
Fax: 202-225-5641

Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs-Jones
U.S House of Representatives
1516 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7032
Fax: 202-2256-1539/2367

Congressman Bennie Thompson
US House of Representatives
2432 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-5876
Fax: 202-225-5898

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Working Copy

**13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
St. Maarten, N.A.**

**THEME: A REGION IN TRANSITION -- STRATEGY FOR
CHANGE -- BUILDING ALLIANCES**

Thursday, November 6, 2008

12:00 noon - 6:00pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -

5:00 - 6:30 - TOWN HALL FORUM - HEALTH

Healthy Eating and Living

Innovative Solutions for Life styles

**Diseases- a Collaborative Approach - Diabetes,
Hypertension, Obesity, Oral Health**

Venue - ROYAL ISLANDER

Moderator - Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

Speakers - Mrs. Karen Boykin-Towns

Congressmember Dr. Donna Christian Christensen

Commissioner Maria Buncamper Molanus, Health

Commissioner, St. Maarten

Dr. Leon Merrick

Dr. Jay Cohan

Dr. John Palmer

6:30- 7:30pm - OPENING RECEPTION

Venue: - UPPER POOL

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Theme: - **A REGION IN TRANSITION -**
Speakers: - **Faye A. Rodney**
Hon. Roy Marlin - Commissioner for Tourism & Finance - St
Maarten.

MC: - **Sabrina Hosang - Royal Caribbean Bakery**
7:30 - 9:30 pm - **OPENING DINNER.**

Venue: - **MAHO ROOM**

Theme: - **STRATEGY FOR CHANGE**

MC - **Judge Sylvia Hinds-Radix**

Speakers: - **Susan Taylor**
Hon. Donald Payne, Member US Congress

10:00pm - 1:00am: - **HOSPITALITY AREA**

Friday, November 7, 2008

8:00am - 8:45am - **(BREAKFAST) - OCEAN TERRACE**

9:00am - 6:00pm

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

OCEAN TERRACE LOBBY

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

SABA ROOM

9:00am - 10:15am

OPENING CEREMONIES

Venue:

MAHO ROOM

Theme:

BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR PROGRESS

Invocation:

Rev. Susan Johnson=Cook

Anthems:

St. Maarten

Lift Every Voice

Remarks:

Eric Eve

Karen Boykin-Towns

Marie Long

Ed Goldberg

Patrick Gaston

Hazel Dukes

Speakers:

**Hon. Carolyn Checks Kilpatrick -- Member
US Congress**

**Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader
of Government, St. Maarten**

Harry Belafonte

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONIES

10:15am - 10:30am - COFFEE BREAK -

10:30am - 11:45am - PRESENTATION

EDUCATION -- TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES - COLLABORATION

Moderator - Dr. Emmanuel Gonsalves
Greetings - Marie Long
Speakers - Dr. Edison Jackson
Patrick Gaston
Dr. Marcia Keizs
Congressmember Eddie Bernice Johnson
Professor Rex Nettleford

12.00 noon - 1:15p.m.

PRESENTATION

TRAVEL AND TOURISM -

A Transformative Approach

Moderator - Lloyd Williams
Greetings - Wallace Ford
Speakers - Commissioner Roy Marlin
Howard Dodson
Congressman Gregory Meeks
Professor Rex Nettleford
Dr. Martin Valdes

12:00 noon - 1:15p.m - PRESENTATION
*HEALTH - AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGY FOR THE REGION*

Greetings - Karen Boykin-Townis

Moderator - Yvonne Graham

Speakers - Dr. Denzil Douglas
Dr. Carl Kenel Pierre

Commissioner Maria Buncamper Molanus, Health
Commissioner, St. Maarten

- Dr. Dexter McKenzie

1:30pm - 2:30pm - LUNCHEON

Venue: - Main Ballroom

Theme: - *BUILDING A WINNING STRATEGY - PARTNERSHIPS
THAT WORK*

Moderator: - Hon. Nick Perry, NYS Assembly

Speakers - Eric Ivo

Keynote Speaker - Hon. David Paterson, Governor New York State

3:00pm - 4:00pm

Round Table # 1 -

Theme - *EDUCATION - THINKFINITY PRESENTATION &
DEMONSTRATION*

Venue - Royal Islander A
MC - Dr. Patricia Hazlewood
Speakers - Patrick Gaston
Albert Browne

Round Table #2 -

Theme - *LOCAL BUSINESS INITIATIVES*
Opportunities with US Companies

Venue - Royal Islander B
Speakers : - Ed Goldberg
Eric Eve
Albert Browne

4:30pm - 6:00pm

- *TOWN HALL FORUM - EDUCATION*
Venue - Royal Islander A
Theme : *EDUCATION - SHARING WORKING SOLUTIONS*
Greetings : Michael Flanigan
Moderator : Dr. Marcella Maxwell

Speakers: - Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor, NYC
Dr. Edison O. Jackson
Dr. Marcia Keizs
Professor Rex Nettleford, UWI
William Payne, Assemblyman New Jersey

Venue:

6:30:100pm - 7:30pm - *HOST COUNTRY EVENING*

Venue:

Theme

MC:

Speakers:

CULTURAL PRESENTATION

7:30 - 8:00 pm:

8:00pm - 10:30 pm.

Venue :

Theme

10:00pm - 1:00am - *HOSPITALITY AREA*

Venue:

Saturday, November 8, 2008

7:45 am - 8:15 am = **BREAKFAST**

Venue - **OCEAN TERRACE**

8:30am - 10:00am - **PRESENTATION**

Theme **WOMEN OF INFLUENCE AND POWER**

Venue: - **MAHO BEACH**

Greetings & Opening Remarks - - **Brenda Scott**

Moderator - **Marilyn Johnson**

Speakers: - **Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Government Business**
Dame Billie Miller, former Deputy Prime Minister, of Barbados
Dr. Marcia Keizs, President York College
Michelle Paterson, First Lady New York State
Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
Rev. Dr. Susan Johnson-Cook

10:15am - 11:45am - **PRESENTATION**

Theme - **THE CARIBBEAN, IT'S VALUE & POTENTIAL**

Venue - **Royal Islander A**

Greetings - **Wallace Ford**

Moderator - **Dame Billie Miller**

Speakers - **Hon. P. J. Patterson, former Prime Minister, Jamaica**
Hon. Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister St. Vincent and the Grenadines
Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister, St. Kitts-Nevis
Congressman Charles Rangel

12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m. - **PRIVATE MEETING -- CLOSED DOOR SESSION**
with Members of Congress and Ministers of Government

12:00 noon - 1:15p.m.

PRESENTATION

Theme

- **TRADE & INVESTMENT - CREATIVE SOLUTIONS**
- **RETOOLING FOR GROWTH - PARTNERSHIP AT WORK**

Venue

- **Royal Islander A**

Greetings

- **Michael Flanigan**

Moderator

- **Ivanhoe Ffriend**

Speakers

- **Adolfo Carrion, Borough President, Bronx, New York**
- **Compton Bourne, President Caribbean Development Bank**
- **Congressman Edolphus Towns**
- **Eric Eve**

12:00 noon - 1:15pm

- **PRESENTATION**

Theme

- **Hemispheric Security - Ports/Airports -**
- **Crime - Drugs - Disaster**

Venue

- **Royal Islander B**

Greetings

- **Earl Brown, Deputy Borough President, Bronx**
- **Judge Sylvia Ash**

Moderator

- **Tony Best**

Speakers

- **Congressman Beanie Thompson**
- **Commissioner Theo Heyliger, St. Maarten**
- **Professor Ivelaw Griffith**
- **Hon. Lance Ogiste, Brooklyn District Attorney**

1:30pm - 2:30 pm

LUNCHEON

Venue

- **MAHO ROOM**

Theme: *CARIBBEAN -- A SOLID INVESTMENT*
Greetings - Hon. Darryl Towns
Speakers - Hon. William Thompson, NYC Comptroller
Dr. Compton Bourne, President CDB

Round Table #1 - *IMMIGRATION/DEPORTEES*
Venue - Royal Islander A
Moderator - Dr. Marco Mason
Speakers Congressman Bennie Thompson
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson, Member US Congress
Attorney Stanford Rubenstein
NYC Councilmember Dr. Kendall Stewart

Round Table#2: - *HAITI -- BOLD INITIATIVES -- THE DIASPORA--
CBC AND CARICOM*
Venue - Royal Islander B
Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham
Speakers - Hon. Charles Rangel
Hon. Gregory Meeks
Hon. Ralph Gonsalves
Dr. Lesly Kernisant

4:30 pm -- 6:00pm - *TOWN HALL FORUM - TECHNOLOGY*
Venue: Royal Islander A

Greetings & Opening - Maria Long

Moderator - Colin Ward

**Speakers - Congressman Edolphus Towns
Albert Brown
Commissioner of Technology**

6:30 - 7:30pm - GALA RECEPTION

Speakers - Susan Taylor

7:30pm - 10:00pm - GALA DINNER & AWARDS PRESENTATION

**Speaker - Dr. Harry Belafonte
Hon. Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Government
Business**

AWARDS PRESENTATION

ENTERTAINMENT

10:30pm - 1:00am - HOSPITALITY AREA

Venue: HOTEL CONFERENCE ROOM

Sunday, November 9, 2008

8:30 am - 10:00am - POWER BREAKFAST

Theme: - *SPIRITUALITY - THE BASICS IN BUSINESS*
Greetings - *Lowell Hawthorne*
Speakers - *Ed Goldberg*
Selection: - *Local Choir*

October 13, 2008

Exhibit 24

American Airlines

CLOSE WINDOW

Record Locator/AA
Confirmation:EMCYKW



Get your boarding pass faster!
Scan this barcode at any American Airlines Self-Service Machine.

Thank you for choosing American Airlines, American Eagle and AmericanConnection, members of the oneworld Alliance.

If your flight is operated by another carrier, please check in with that carrier per their guidelines.

Check-in times will vary depending on your departure or destination city. In order to determine the time you need to check in at the airport, visit our Suggested Arrival Times page at www.aa.com/arrivaltimes.

If you have a U.S. DOMESTIC E-TICKET, check in for your flight using Flight Check-In at AA.com between 1 and 24 hours prior to flight time. Use the E-TICKET confirmation/record locator above to select or change your seat and obtain a boarding pass. On day of departure, you will be required to present a government-issued photo-ID at the airport.

As a security measure, if this ticket was purchased using a credit card with billing address in Latin America or the Caribbean (except Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands), the credit card holder must be present at time of check-in to verify identification and sign a credit card voucher. For your convenience, the credit card holder can present the credit card and provide this signature prior to departure date at any AA ticketing office in Latin America and the Caribbean.

See the ENDORSEMENT line below for key fare rules pertaining to your ticket, if applicable.

If you have begun travel, your online receipt record may only indicate portions of your trip which have not been flown.



Itinerary

Date:	06Nov - Thursday		
Flight:	AMERICAN AIRLINES	873	Boeing 737-800 Passenger (738) Booking Code: V
Departure:	DTW Detroit	06:00 AM	3HR 5MIN
Arrival:	MIA Miami	09:05 AM	
	KILPATRICK, CAROLYN SEAT 13D	Economy	FF# :AA A833U50
Date:	06Nov - Thursday		
Flight:	AMERICAN AIRLINES	687	Boeing 737-800 Passenger (738) Booking Code: V
Departure:	MIA Miami	11:20 AM	2HR 50MIN
Arrival:	SXM St Maarten	03:10 PM	
	KILPATRICK, CAROLYN SEAT 8C	Economy	FF# :AA A833U50
Date:	09Nov - Sunday		
Flight:	AMERICAN AIRLINES	2160	Boeing 737-800 Passenger (738) Booking Code: Q
Departure:	SXM St Maarten	04:15 PM	3HR 20MIN
Arrival:	MIA Miami	06:35 PM	
	KILPATRICK, CAROLYN SEAT 14C	Economy	FF# :AA A833U50
Date:	09Nov - Sunday		

09-2567 0272

Flight:	AMERICAN AIRLINES	390	Boeing 737-800 Passenger (738)	Booking Code: Q
Departure:	MIA Miami	08:25 PM		3HR 5MIN
Arrival:	DTW Detroit	11:30 PM		
	KILPATRICK, CAROLYN SEAT 13C	Economy	FF# :AA A833U50	

Receipt

PASSENGER	TICKET NUMBER	FARE	TAXES	TICKET TOTAL
KILPATRICK,CAROLYN	0012190117150	548.80 USD	77.35	626.15
Payment Type:	AMERICAN EXPRESS *****9426			Total 626.15 USD

Endorsements/Restrictions -

NONREF/CHG FEE APPLIES/NO VALUE AFTER FLT TIME

Note - If your ticket involves travel outside the U.S., Canada, U.S. Virgin Islands or Puerto Rico and has been reissued for any reason, the total amount above may not include all taxes. Please check with American Airlines Reservations at 1-800-433-7300 for the correct total.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A summary of Terms and Conditions applicable to your travel is available on ticket jackets, which are available at any American Airlines ticket office or at www.aa.com/conditionsofcarriage.

You may have purchased a "Special Fare" and certain restrictions apply. Some fares are non-refundable. If the fare allows changes, a fee may be assessed for the change.

If you have questions regarding our refund policy, please visit www.aa.com/refunds.

CHECKING IN

On day of departure, you will be required to present a government-issued photo identification at the airport. Check-in times will vary depending on your departure or destination city. If your flight is operated by another carrier, please check in with that carrier per their guidelines. In order to determine the time you need to check in at the airport, visit our Suggested Arrival Times page at www.aa.com/arrivaltimes.

Check in for your flight using Flight Check-In (www.aa.com/checkin) at AA.com between 1 and 24 hours prior to flight time if you have a U.S. domestic e-ticket. You may also use the Self Service Check-In machine (www.aa.com/selfservice) at the airport on your day of departure. Use the e-ticket confirmation/record locator above to select or change your seat and obtain a boarding pass.

TRAVELING INTERNATIONALLY

If you are traveling internationally, please ensure that you have all necessary travel documents for the countries you are visiting. Visit the International Travel section at www.aa.com/intl for more information and helpful links.

BAGGAGE INFORMATION

To enhance security, FAA requirements mandate that customers are allowed one carry-on bag plus one personal item onboard. To learn more about current carry-on baggage allowances including checked bag policies and applicable fees, please visit www.aa.com/baggageinfo.

HAZARDOUS ITEMS

Many common items can be hazardous when transported by air and are prohibited. Please refer to the Restricted Items page at www.aa.com/restricteditems for more information.

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

If you need special assistance due to a disability, or have children or pets traveling, visit the Special Assistance section www.aa.com/assistance before you travel.

FLIGHT STATUS

09-2567 0273

Please check your departure/arrival gate information prior to arriving at the airport. This information can be found at www.aa.com/gates.

RESERVATIONS ASSISTANCE

Should you need to change your reservation, please call 1-800-433-7300 and refer to the above record locator.

AADVANTAGE INFORMATION

AAdvantage members may call our toll free number 1-800-882-8880 for assistance, or visit www.aa.com. Also on AA.com, you can book the most popular AAdvantage travel awards at our Redeem Miles section www.aa.com/redeemmiles.

AA.COM

Visit www.aa.com/emails, which allows you to opt-in to receive American Airlines e-mail products, offering the latest news and information, as well as exclusive offers.

CLOSE WINDOW

Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi Business Conference Registration Form - PL

SAINT MAARTEN . NOVEMBER 6

Before you begin your application, you may want to gather your supplementary documentation so that you have it ha complete all sections of the application form except for, in some cases, section 4 ('Transportation'). After you have e within 24 hours. For more information please contact NY Carib News at 212-944-1991.

Step One - Applicant Profile

Please provide the following contact information.

*Last Name:
Kilpatrick

*First Name:
Carolyn

*E-mail Address:
ckkilpatrick@mail.house.gov

Home Phone:
(313) 361-3562

Business Name:
U.S. House of Representative

Business Phone:
(202) 225-2261

Business Address:
2264 Rayburn HOB

Business Address (co

Type of Business:
Government

Area of Interest:

Step Two Part A - Accommodation (Standard Rooms) Choose Either Standard or Suite

Please choose an accommodation package, if you choose the double occupancy option, we ask that you provide the name of Beach Hotel. Please use this opportunity to make any special requests such as extra nights.

Extra Night Rate For Standard Rooms - \$180 per night based on Double Occupancy and \$265 per night based on provided packages, please contact us directly.

Single Occupancy Packages | Standard Accommodation - Single

Rooming with...

Double Occupancy | Standard Accommodation - Double

Sports: | Golf Shirt Size :
Golf | Small

Step Two Part B - Accommodation (Suite Rooms - Limited Availability) Choose Either Standard or Suite

Please choose an accommodation package, if you choose the double occupancy option, we ask that you provide the name of Beach Hotel. Please use this opportunity to make any special requests such as extra nights.

Extra Night Rate For Suite Rooms - \$250 per night based on Double Occupancy and \$325 per night based on provided packages, please contact us directly.

Single Occupancy Packages | Conference Package Suite - \$1198

Rooming with...

Double Occupancy | Suite Accommodation - Double

Sports: | Golf Shirt Size :
Golf | Small

Step Three - Transportation

In order for us to arrange your ground transportation, it's required that we have your flight information.

Airline:

Flight Number:

American Airlines		
Departure Date:		
November	6	2008
Return Airline:		
American		
Return Date:		
November	6	2008

873
Departure Time:
6:00AM
Return Flight Number
2160
Return Departure Tim
4:15PM

STEP 4: PAYMENT

Please enter your credit card information, then click on 'Submit Registration' to complete your online registration, wait a fe check, print this page and mail to NY Carib News with your check enclosed.

Form of Payment:

Credit Card <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

*Credit Card Number:

--

*Name on Card:

--

*Expiration Date (mn

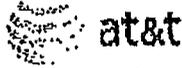
--	--

After you complete the Registration form, please double check your information. If you have any questions, please call us

Submit

THANK YOU FOR FILLING OUT THE REGISTRATION FORM. This page verifies that your information has been sent to Carib News Conference. One of our planners will contact you by email or phone within a couple of days to answer any questions you may have.

Thank You In Advance



[Print] [Close]

From: "Bragg, Andrea" <Andrea.Bragg@mail.house.gov>
To: <carib-desk@att.net>
Subject: FW: Room Information
Date: Friday, October 31, 2008 12:14:51 PM

Patricia, Ayanna Kilpatrick will be staying with Congresswoman Kilpatrick along with Annaya Ferguson (7-months-old). Please add a crib to the room. The travel dates are Thursday, November 6 thru Sunday, November 9. Thank you.

Andrea Bragg
Executive Assistant/Scheduler
for Congresswoman Carolyn Kilpatrick
1274 Library Suite 1B
Detroit, Michigan 48226
(313) 965-9004 (office)
(313) 965-9006 (fax)

From: Bragg, Andrea
Sent: Friday, October 31, 2008 12:10 PM
To: 'caribbean-desk@att.net'
Subject: Room Information

Patricia, Ayanna Kilpatrick will be staying with Congresswoman Kilpatrick along with Annaya Ferguson (7-months-old). Please add a crib to the room. The travel dates are Thursday, November 6 thru Sunday, November 9. Thank you.

Andrea Bragg
Executive Assistant/Scheduler
for Congresswoman Carolyn Kilpatrick
1274 Library Suite 1B
Detroit, Michigan 48226
(313) 965-9004 (office)
(313) 965-9006 (fax)

<http://webmail.att.net/wmc/en-US/n/wm/490B4995000D794300005A2A22230706129B0...> 10/31/2008

Exhibit 25



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the
General Counsel

Office of the
Secretary
Washington, D.C.
20201

June 2, 2000

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Ethics Counselors
National Institutes of Health

FROM: Karen Santoro
Ethics Counsel

SUBJECT: Outside Activities of NIH Employees with Foundations

Recently, a provision of the Internal Revenue Code has been brought to my attention that has serious ramifications for NIH employees who have previously received approval to engage in outside employment activities with private foundations. The statute imposes a tax on "each act of self-dealing between a disqualified person and a private foundation." 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(1). This statute, which was enacted in 1969, was intended to curb private foundations' attempts to influence Government officials. The Internal Revenue Service has issued a number of revenue rulings with respect to Government employees and prospective activities with private foundations.

Issue: The Internal Revenue Service imposes an individual penalty tax of up to 200% of the amount of compensation from a private foundation to certain Government officials conducting outside activities with these foundations.

Conclusion: Certain Government officials should refrain from accepting compensation (other than travel expenses within the United States) for outside activities with private foundations.

Discussion: Specifically, the statute imposes a tax on each act of self-dealing by a disqualified individual equal to five percent of the amount involved for each year in the taxable period. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(1) [1]. In any case in which an initial tax is imposed on an act of self-dealing which is not corrected within the taxable period, a tax equal to 200 percent of the amount involved will be imposed on the disqualified person. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(b)(1)[2].

The Code defines "self-dealing" as any direct or indirect agreement by a private foundation to make any payment to certain enumerated government officials. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(1)(F)[3]. Government officials who are "disqualified persons" within the scope of this restriction are elective officials, Presidential appointees, Schedule C employees, and individuals compensated at or above GS-15-7 levels, irrespective of their appointment mechanism (Title 42, SBRs, Commissioned Corps), and personal or executive assistants or secretaries to any of the foregoing. 26 U.S.C. § 4946(c). Excluded from the definition of government employees is a "special governmental employee" as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 202 (a)[4]; Treas. Reg. 53.4946-1(g)(1).

Also excluded from the definition of self-dealing are agreements to employ an individual for any period after the termination of his government service if that individual is terminating his government service within a 90 day period. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (d)(1)(F). For purposes of the statute, a "private foundation" has the same meaning as in 26 U.S.C. § 509. A website for obtaining the status of a foundation can be found at http://www.irs.ustreas.gov/bus_info/eo/eosearch.html.

09-2567 0279

Government officials who are within the scope of this statute will be required to pay the tax only if the individual participates in the act of self-dealing knowing that it is an act of self-dealing. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (a)(1). The regulations define "knowing" to include those situations when: the individual has actual knowledge of the facts that such a transaction would be self-dealing; he is aware that the act violates Federal tax law governing self-dealing; and he negligently fails to make reasonable attempts to ascertain whether the act is an act of self-dealing or he is in fact aware that it is in an act of self-dealing. Treas. Reg. § 53.4941 (a)(1)-(b)(3). The burden is thus on the individual to determine whether he or she is liable under the statute.

An individual's participation in an act of self-dealing will not be considered "knowing" if the individual, after full disclosure of the factual situation to legal counsel, relies on the advice of counsel expressed in a "reasoned written legal opinion" that an act is not an act of self-dealing within the meaning of the statute, even if the act is subsequently determined to be self-dealing. Treas. Reg. § 53.4941(a)(1)-(b)(6).

Finally, a tax for self-dealing will not be imposed under the following circumstances: certain nontaxable prizes and awards if the recipients are selected from the general public; nontaxable scholarships and fellowship grants; qualifying annuity plans; contributions or gifts not exceeding an aggregate of \$25; payments made under the government employee training program in 5 U.S.C. Ch. 41; and payment of travel expenses within the United States. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (d)(2)(B); Rev. Rul. 131, 1974-2 C.B. 385.

As a result of this statute, NIH employees paid at or above the GS 15-7 level are effectively prohibited from receiving compensation from a private foundation for activities such as teaching, writing, advising, or consulting. The Internal Revenue Service may serve a deficiency notice upon an employee, who would then be forced to pay the tax or contest the assessment.

Effective immediately, all requests for approval of outside activities must be reviewed in accordance with the statutory provision at 26 U.S.C. § 4941. The compensation level of the individual requesting approval must be considered in conjunction with an analysis of the nature of the private entity offering the opportunity for compensation. Previously approved outside activities with foundations for NIH employees who are paid at or above the GS 15-7 level should be reviewed to determine the status of the foundation. Should the status of the foundation be private, any affected employee must be advised to either accept only travel expenses within the United States for his/her service or resign from such service. Employees who have questions whether payment to them by a private foundation constitutes acts of self-dealing should consult private counsel.

For your information, the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) and the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) are. For your information, the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) and the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) are **not** considered private foundations for purposes of this prohibition.

The NIH Office of the Legal Advisor has reviewed and concurs in this opinion.

cc: Robert Lanman, Stephen Benowitz

[1] When a tax is imposed on a self-dealer, a corresponding tax of 2.5 percent is imposed on any foundation manager unless the participation by the foundation manager is not willful and is due to reasonable care. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(2). A maximum tax of \$10,000 may be imposed. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (c) (2).

[2] The "taxable period" is defined as the period beginning with the date on which the act of self-dealing occurs, and ending on the earliest of: the date that a deficiency notice is mailed by the I.R.S.; the date on which the tax is assessed; or the date on which the correction of the act of self-dealing is completed. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (e), Treas. Reg. § 53.4941 (e) -1 (a) (1). As with the initial tax, a corresponding additional tax of 50 percent will be imposed on any foundation manager who refuses to agree to the correction. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (b) (2). As with the initial tax, the penalty on a foundation manager is limited to \$10,000. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (c) (2)

[3] The statute also defines "self-dealing" to include: the sale or exchange, or leasing, of property; the lending of money or other extension of credit; the furnishing of goods, services, or facilities; payments to a disqualified person as defined in 26 U.S.C. § 4946 (a) (such as substantial contributors, foundation managers, holders of 20 percent of the voting power or beneficial interests; family members of disqualified individuals, or a corporation, partnership, or trust holding a 35 percent interest); and transfer to or use by a disqualified person of the foundation's income or assets. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (d).

[4] 18 U.S.C. § 202 (a) defines "special Government employee" as temporary employee appointed for a term not to exceed 130 days, a part-time U.S. commissioner or magistrate, a part-time member of Congress, or a Reserve or National Guard officer.

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SANDLER, REIFF & YOUNG, P.C.

October 20, 2009

R. Blake Chisam, Esq.
Chief Counsel & Staff Director
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
Suite HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

RECEIVED
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COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS

Dear Mr. Chisam:

In response to the Committee's letter of October 5, 2009, addressed to our client, U.S. Rep. Carolyn C. Kilpatrick, enclosed is a Statement of Congresswoman Kilpatrick in response to the Report of the Office of Congressional Ethics ("OCE") relating to allegations concerning the Congresswoman's participation in the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference held in St. Maarten, N.A. from November 6-9, 2008.

As the Statement makes clear, there is simply no basis whatsoever for OCE's findings that there is a "substantial reason to believe" that the Congresswoman violated any of the House Rules or the Committee regulations.

Your letter of October 5 further states that, "Pursuant to Committee Rule 17(A)(e), OCE's report and findings will be released to the public at the conclusion of the Committee's investigation." The Congresswoman respectfully submits, however, that the Committee is not authorized to release the OCE Report, under Rule 17(A), for three reasons.

First, the OCE Report was not properly completed or issued under H. Res. 895, 110th Congress, 2d Sess. (2008). The Board repeatedly failed to comply with the deadlines established by that Resolution. The Resolution provides that, once a preliminary review is commenced, it must be completed within 30 days of the date a request for review is received, and if the Board decides to commence a second-phase review, the Board must vote to do so "[b]efore the end of the applicable time period," *i.e.*, before the end of that 30-day period. H. Res. 895, sections 1(c)(1)(B) & (C).

In this case, the written request was received on February 23, 2009. (OCE Report p. 6 ¶10). The 30-day period expired on March 25, 2009. The Board, however, did not vote to commence a second-phase review until March 27, 2009. (OCE Report p. 6 ¶11).

The Resolution required that second-phase review to be completed within 45 days, unless the Board voted to extend the period by an additional 14 days. H. Res. 895, section

1(c)(2)(A). The Board did vote to extend that period by 14 days and, therefore, the period in which to complete a second-phase review expired on May 25, 2009. Yet the Board did not vote to transmit its Report to this Committee until May 29, 2009. (OCE Report p. 6 ¶13). Further, the Board actually continued its investigation after the date on which it represented, to this Committee, that the Board had completed its second-phase review. Specifically, the Board reported to this Committee that its second-phase review ended on May 26, 2009 (OCE Report p. 6 ¶12). In fact OCE conducted interviews in the course of that investigation as late as May 27 and May 28, 2009. (OCE Report p. 42 note 87).

Second, substantial portions of the OCE Report contain information that is highly inflammatory yet which does not relate in any way to Congresswoman Kilpatrick and in fact was compiled in flagrant violation of H. Res. 895. Specifically, as the Congresswoman's Statement explains, the OCE Report, which is supposed to relate solely to the Congresswoman's conduct, also includes a very substantial discussion that has nothing whatsoever to do with the Congresswoman or her attendance at the Carib News Conference. Fully half of the OCE Report (Section III, pages 23 through 44) is devoted to an extensive review of allegations about the supposed "intervention" of the former Counsel to the Chair of the Committee in the Committee's review of the 2007 Carib News Conference.

Congresswoman Kilpatrick did not attend that 2007 Conference at all and was completely unaware of any of the events described relating to this supposed "intervention." Indeed, OCE concedes that the "intervention of the counsel to the former Chair...*did not involve Congresswoman Kilpatrick.*" (OCE Report p. 5 ¶8(b)(emphasis added). It is wholly inappropriate to release a report purportedly evaluating allegations against Congresswoman Kilpatrick, but fully half of which is devoted to derogatory information about another Member (now deceased) and her staffer, having nothing whatsoever to do with Congresswoman Kilpatrick.

Further, the investigation of the conduct of Committee staff taking place entirely within 2007 manifestly violates H. Res. 895, which clearly provides that "No review shall be undertaken by the board of any alleged violation of law, rule... not in effect at the time of the alleged violation; *nor shall any review be undertaken by the board of any alleged violation that occurred before the date of adoption of this resolution.*" H. Res. 895, section 1(e)(emphasis added). The Resolution was adopted on March 11, 2008. The Board had no authority whatsoever to investigate conduct taking place entirely in 2007.

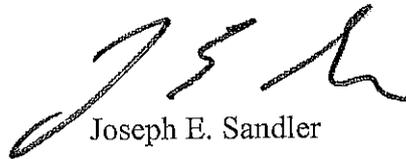
Third, release of the OCA Report is not required by Rule 17A(e) of this Committee's Rules. That Rule provides that, if this Committee votes to dismiss a matter referred from the Board "the Committee is not required to make public the written report and findings of the Board...unless the Committee's vote is inconsistent with the recommendation of the Board." In this case, for the first reason stated above, there is no valid recommendation of the Board because the Board's recommendation was issued in violation of the Resolution. Further, the Board's recommendation was simply that "the Committee... further review the above described allegations concerning Congresswoman Kilpatrick." (OCE Report p. 1). There would be nothing inconsistent with that recommendation in a vote by this Committee to dismiss the matter.

R. Blake Chisam, Esq.
October 20, 2009
Page 3

For these reasons, the OCE Report should be disregarded by this Committee in its entirety and should, in no event, be released.

The Congresswoman is grateful to the Committee for the opportunity afforded to the Congresswoman to respond to the OCE Report. If you have any questions or need any further information concerning the above or the Congresswoman's Statement, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JES", is written above the printed name "Joseph E. Sandler".

Joseph E. Sandler

**BEFORE THE
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT**

**STATEMENT OF U.S. REPRESENTATIVE CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK
IN RESPONSE TO REPORT OF
OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS IN
REVIEW NO. 09-2567**

I am submitting this Statement at the invitation of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct (the "Committee" or "House Ethics Committee"), by letter to me dated October 5, 2009, to respond to the Report of the Office of Congressional Ethics in Review No. 09-2567 (the "OCE Report"). That OCE Report addresses my acceptance of expenses from the Carib New Foundation to attend the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference held in St. Maarten, N.A., from November 6-9, 2008 (the "Carib News Conference)."

For reasons stated in the accompanying letter from my counsel, the OCE Report should not be released at all. If that Report nevertheless is released, I respectfully request that this entire Statement be released to the public as well.

The OCE Report found "substantial reason to believe" that I violated "various provisions" of House Rule XXV, Section 5(b) in three ways: (1) by accepting reimbursement of expenses from entities that employ or retain lobbyists for participating in an event for more than one day; (2) by under-reporting the value of travel reimbursements received; and (3) by violating the "limitation that a Member may bring only one family member with them on privately sponsored travel." OCE Report, p. 4.

As explained below in more detail, OCE's findings on these three points are absolutely baseless. Those findings grossly misconstrue House Rules and House Ethics Committee procedures and ignore the evidence presented to OCE. The undisputed facts are that:

- In accepting travel expenses for this trip, I followed to the letter the procedures set out in House Rule XXV and the regulations of the Committee.
- I received written pre-approval from this Committee for reimbursement of these travel expenses.
- I accurately reported all information about the expenses reimbursed as provided to my office by the trip's sponsor, Carib News.

- No expenses of any kind were accepted for the travel expenses of any family member except the one family member, my sister, reimbursement of whose expenses was specifically approved by this Committee.

For these reasons, this Committee should reject the OCE Report's findings in their entirety and give them no consideration at all.

Further, the OCE Report, which is supposed to relate solely to my conduct, also includes a very substantial discussion that has nothing whatsoever to do with me or my attendance at the Conference. Fully half of the OCE Report (Section III) is devoted to an extensive review of allegations about the supposed "intervention" of the former Counsel to the Chair of the Committee, the late Rep. Stephanie Tubbs Jones (D-Ohio), in the Committee's review of the 2007 Carib News Conference, I did not attend the 2007 Conference at all and was completely unaware of any of the events described relating to this supposed "intervention." Indeed, OCE concedes that the "intervention of the counsel to the former Chair...*did not involve Congresswoman Kilpatrick.*" OCE Report p. 5 ¶8(b). Why then did OCE devote half of its report and hundreds of pages of exhibits to these allegations that have nothing to do with me? Inclusion of the material in this Report is wholly inappropriate.

The OCE Report also addresses limitations on the Carib News Foundation's ability to pay for overseas travel of government officials under the Internal Revenue Code. The OCE Report concludes that I told OCE that I was "unaware of any such limitations" and that, "The Board finds this statement to be credible." OCE Report p. 6 ¶8(d). No reason to question my conduct in any way, relating to this point, is set out in the OCE Report and therefore I do not address it further.

I. Identifying the Sponsor of the Trip

As the OCE Report concedes, I properly submitted a Privately Sponsored Travel: Traveler Form, to the House Ethics Committee, with respect to the acceptance of expenses for this trip from a private source. OCE Report, p. 9 ¶20. Attached to that form was a Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form provided to my office by the trip sponsor, Carib News, which certified that Carib News was the sole sponsor of the trip and that Carib News had "not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip." OCE Report Exhibit 1 at p. 0012. This Committee then approved payment of my travel expenses by Carib News Foundation, in a letter to me dated October 21, 2008. OCE Report p. 10 ¶23 & Exhibit 1 p. 0007.

The OCE Report finds no problem or fault whatsoever in the process I followed in obtaining the required pre-approval by this Committee of payment of the expenses for this trip. The Report charges, however, that “once at the conference, Congresswoman Kilpatrick was presented with evidence that other corporations were sponsors.” OCE Report p. 7 ¶16. That charge is based solely on the facts that (i) there were signs hung behind the speaker’s podium at the conference displaying the logos of several corporations and (ii) during my remarks at the Conference on November 7, 2008, in passing I stated: “and to the sponsors, by the way, all of you, we couldn’t do this, be with you, help Karl if you were’ here with us so we say thank you....” OCE Report p. 11 ¶¶24, 27-28 & Exhibit 3 p. 0053.

I will reiterate here what I told OCE and told the Investigative Subcommittee of this Committee during its interview of me: Carib News represented to this Committee, and thus to the Congress, in writing, that Carib News was the *sole sponsor* of the Conference. We are all aware that making a false statement to Congress is a federal felony. I had no information at any time that any corporation had earmarked any contribution for the Conference.

That logos of corporations were displayed on a sign—without any designation of them as sponsors of the Conference—meant nothing more to me than that they were either participants (as speakers) in the Conference and/or that they had contributed generally to support the work of Carib News. (The picture of the sign on page 212 of the OCE Report shows no designation of any sponsorship). My passing remarks thanking the “sponsors” reflected nothing more than my awareness that these companies were participating and/or had contributed funds generally to support the work of Carib News Foundation.

The OCE Report cites and reviews an extensive number of documents, and OCE interviews, indicating that various corporations in fact earmarked contributions to Carib News to defray expenses of the Conference. But it is undisputed that *I never saw a single one of these documents* until the OCE Report was delivered to me by this Committee on October 5, 2009. The OCE Report does not contend otherwise. None of these documents was copied to me. I was not a party to any of the correspondence or memos cited in this Report which supposedly pertains to my conduct. Needless to say, I was not privy to any of the interviews conducted by OCE in the course of its investigation.

OCE concedes that my reliance on the Carib News Private Traveler Form certification and the House Ethics Committee review to identify the sponsor of this trip “is reasonable to a point.” OCE Report p. 5 ¶8(a). OCE nevertheless implies that I somehow had an independent responsibility to investigate the true sponsor of the trip based on “information” that “numerous corporations were identified as sponsor of the conference at the conference.” OCE Report ¶32 p.

14. OCE further contends that, having conducted such an independent investigation, I should then have identified the “true” sponsors on my Member Post-Travel Disclosure Form. OCE Report ¶¶ 16-18 pp. 7-9.

Of course, I never received any such “information.” None of the speakers cited identified any corporation as a sponsor *of the Conference*, except for a Mr. Michael Flanigan of Citibank, (OCE Report p. 11 ¶¶24-26), whose remarks I do not recall hearing at all. The signage cited in the Report did not identify any corporation as a sponsor of the Conference.

OCE is apparently suggesting that a Member, having followed the proper pre-approval procedure under the House Rule and House Ethics regulations, and having commenced a trip, must then undertake an independent investigation on her own of the true sponsorship of the event if there are any “indications” potentially inconsistent with the sponsorship certified by the trip sponsor itself—and as confirmed by the review of House Ethics. That suggestion is absurd. No Member has the capability to conduct such an investigation.

As a Member of the House, I voted for the resolution, at the beginning of the 110th Congress, amending House Rule XXV with respect to privately-sponsored travel by Members and staff. As I understood these changes—and, I am sure, as virtually all other Members understood them—the entire point of the new pre-approval procedure is to provide Members with a mechanism for identifying the source of privately-sponsored travel. The new procedure does that by having the sponsor itself provide a certification identifying any funds earmarked for the travel and by having the House Ethics Committee then review the documentation submitted and pre-approve the receipt of expenses from the private source. In other words, a fundamental purpose of this process is precisely to allow Members *to rely on it* as a means of ensuring compliance with the rules.

OCE’s approach is thus completely inconsistent with the letter, meaning and spirit of the House Rules. OCE’s findings as to my acceptance of travel expenses from Carib News should be rejected outright by this Committee.

II. The Value of Travel Reimbursements as Reported on the Post-Travel Form

The OCE Report faults me for supposedly under-reporting, on my Member Post-Travel Disclosure Form, the value of the travel expenses paid for me by Carib News. OCE Report ¶98 p. 45. OCE correctly notes that I included, on this form, the exact information provided to me by Carib News. OCE Report pp. 46, 48 ¶¶ 100, 103-104

OCE, however, contends that I should have reported the airline cost as being about \$200 more than the figure I reported based on information appearing in fine print on the airline ticket itself and on an itinerary faxed to my office OCE Report ¶105-6,- pp. 48-49. OCE further contends that I should have reported a value for my hotel room as that appearing in an online registration document rather than the figure provided by Carib News. OCE Report ¶108 p. 51.

OCE suggests that the Post-Travel Form “puts the obligation on Members, not staff, not the Standards Committee and not sponsors, to certify that the information on the form is ‘true, accurate and complete’ to the ‘best of the Member’s knowledge.’” OCE Report p. 5 ¶8(c). OCE argues that I “saw the *value* of [my] travel” and had copies “of documents that showed its true *value*” in my office files, but certified differing information. OCE Report p. 5¶8(c).

OCE’s position is based on a blatant misreading of the applicable rules and regulations. The Post-Travel Form itself, in item 9, “Trip Expenses” instructs Members to “*Obtain actual dollar amounts from the sponsor.*” (See OCE Report ¶103 p. 48, showing that page of the Form as I filled it out). That is an appropriate instruction because, contrary to OCE’s misimpression, the rules do *not* call for reporting of the *value* of the transportation and lodging provided, but rather for reporting the amount of actual “*expenses reimbursed.*” Rule XXV, Section 5(b)((1)(A)(ii). Rule XXV, Section 5(b)(3), specifically addressing this form, refers to “a good faith estimate of total transportation expenses reimbursed or to be reimbursed” (Subsection (A)) and “a good faith estimate of total lodging expenses reimbursed.” (Subsection B).

In other words, the *actual amount paid by the private sponsor* is what is supposed to be reported. And that amount can only come *from the sponsor*, as the Form directs. That an air fare appears on an itinerary or ticket does not mean that the sponsor paid that amount, especially if the airline has offered special discounts, etc. to the sponsor to serve as an official airline for the sponsor’s convention, or the like. Similarly, it is common for the sponsors of a meeting or convention to obtain special discounted rates for hotel rooms, or even a number of free rooms, meaning the actual total costs to the sponsor could be prorated over a number of rooms including complimentary rooms, resulting in a lower per-room cost.

OCE notes that Mr. Rodney admitted to them, long after the trip, that the actual cost paid per individual was higher than that reported by Carib News to the Members attending the Conference. OCE Report p. 47 ¶102. That information, of course, was not available to me until the OCE Report was provided to me on October 5, 2009, long after the Post-Travel Form was filed.

For these reasons, the only proper way for a Member to comply with the Rule by reporting the actual amount of “expenses reimbursed” is to obtain the information from the sponsor and report it, which is exactly what the Form itself instructs the Member to do and exactly what I did. For that reason OCE’s finding that I underreported the value of travel in my Post-Travel Form is completely unsupportable and should be disregarded by this Committee.

III. Relatives Accompanying Me on the Trip

OCE found “reason to believe” that I “violated the limitation that a Member may only bring one family member with them on privately sponsored travel” by bringing both my daughter and granddaughter to the Conference. OCE Report p. 4 ¶5. In fact, I brought my sister—whose expenses were paid by Carib News as approved by this Committee—and my daughter and granddaughter, whose expenses I paid personally.

The “limitation” referred to by OCE simply does not exist. The limitation is *not* on who can accompany the Member but on who can have their *expenses covered* by the private sponsor. The applicable Rule, House Rule XXV, Section 5(b)(4)(D) provides that the expenses that may be reimbursed by a private sponsor—that is, “necessary transportation, lodging and related expenses”—“may include travel expenses incurred on behalf of a relative of the Member....” As explained in the House Ethics Manual, “This provision does not allow *the acceptance of travel expenses* for any accompanying individual other than a relative. Further this provision allows *the acceptance of expenses* for only one relative.” House Ethics Manual p. 101 (emphasis added).

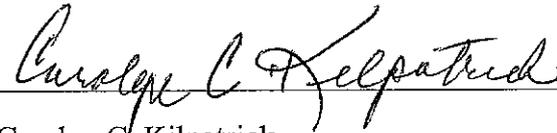
I did not accept any expenses from Carib News or any private sponsor for any relative other than my sister. This Committee specifically approved the acceptance of expenses for my sister. I personally paid for the airfare of my daughter and granddaughter and there was no incremental lodging expense at all because they stayed in my room.

For these reasons, there was clearly no violation of the House Rule and the OCE finding on this point should, again, be completely disregarded by this Committee.

IV. Conclusion

For the reasons I have set out above, OCE's findings of a "substantial reason to believe" that I violated any of the House Rules or Committee regulations are clearly wrong and should be rejected by this Committee.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my information, knowledge and belief. Executed on October 20, 2009.



Carolyn C. Kilpatrick

111th CONGRESS, 1st SESSION
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

**Investigation into Officially Connected Travel of House Members to Attend the Carib
News Foundation Multinational Business Conferences in 2007 and 2008.**

Appendix C

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT

Review No. 09-4403

The Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics, by a vote of no less than four members, on May 29, 2009 adopted the following report and ordered it to be transmitted to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct of the U.S. House of Representatives.

SUBJECT: Representative Donald Payne

NATURE OF THE ALLEGED VIOLATION: There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Donald Payne's participation in the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten, N.A. from November 6-9, 2008, his acceptance of reimbursement of expenses to attend that conference and the Member Post Travel Disclosure Form he filed violated various provisions of House Rule XXV Section 5(b).

RECOMMENDATION: The Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics recommends that the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct further review the above described allegations concerning Congressman Payne.

VOTES IN THE AFFIRMATIVE: 6

VOTES IN THE NEGATIVE: 0

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OR STAFF DESIGNATED TO PRESENT THIS REPORT TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE: Leo Wise, Staff Director & Chief Counsel.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CITATIONS TO LAW

Review No. 09-4403

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CITATIONS TO LAW

Review No. 09-4403

On May 29, 2009 the Board adopted the following findings of fact and accompanying citations to law, regulations, rules and standards of conduct (*in italics*). The Board notes that these findings do not constitute a determination that a violation actually occurred.

I. INTRODUCTON

1. Congressman Donald Payne attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten, N.A., from November 6-9, 2008. Congressman Payne received funds from a private source to participate in the conference.

A. Summary of Allegations

2. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Payne violated the requirement that he identify the “true, correct and accurate” sponsor of his travel “to the best of his knowledge” on his Member Post Travel Disclosure Form. While forms submitted to his office and the Standards Committee before the conference identified one entity as the sponsor—the Carib News Foundation—once at the conference, Congressman Payne was presented with indications that other corporations—including Citigroup, IBM, AT&T, Pfizer, Macy’s and Verizon Foundation—were also sponsors. Those indications proved to be true—the corporations were in fact sponsors of Congressman Payne’s travel according to House travel rules because the corporations had donated funds specifically for the conference (i.e. earmarked funds). Further, events that occurred in 2007 affected the Standards Committee’s ability to determine whether these corporations were sponsors in 2008:
 - a. In 2007, the House of Representatives changed the rules governing travel. Those changes placed limitations on the number of days Members of Congress could participate in events (such as conferences) when their travel was sponsored by an entity that employs or retains a lobbyist. These changes affected the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference. In 2007, the Carib News Foundation continued to identify various corporations as sponsors on the

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

conference agenda and on a draft version of the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form prepared for submission to the Standards Committee for approval. However, after interacting with the counsel to the then-Chair of the Standards Committee, and apparently without the knowledge of the staff attorney reviewing the trip, the documents identifying these corporations as "sponsors" were changed and their sponsorship was not disclosed.

- b. The 2007 conduct and attendant misrepresentations appear to have directly influenced what occurred in 2008. When the Carib News Foundation submitted materials to the Standards Committee for their approval of the 2008 conference, the Carib News Foundation took the same approach as in 2007 and did not disclose the role of the corporate sponsors on the forms they submitted to the Standards Committee.
3. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Payne violated House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C) by accepting trip-related reimbursements from entities that employ or retain lobbyists for participating in an event for more than one day.
4. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Payne violated House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B) by underreporting the value of the travel reimbursements he received to attend the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference.
5. There is substantial reason to believe that the Carib News Foundation's payment of travel expenses for Representative Payne and his acceptance of payment violated the Internal Revenue Code. As stated above, Carib News Charities, the name previously held by the 501(c) organization now known as the Carib News Foundation, is listed as a private foundation in the Internal Revenue's cumulative list of charitable organizations, Publication 78. Therefore, the Standards Committee should not have approved the trip because the funds came from a prohibited source.

B. A Note on Culpability

6. These findings fall into four categories: (1) the sponsor or sponsors, as the case appears to be, of the conference; (2) the intervention of the counsel to the former Chair of the Standards Committee in the Standards Committee's review process of the conference in 2007 and how it affected the information before the Standards Committee in 2008; (3) the accuracy of the value of the reimbursement submitted by Congressman Payne and (4) whether, because of its tax status, the Carib News Foundation could lawfully pay for Congressman Payne's conference-related expenses.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

7. While all these topics are relevant, the Board notes that they do not all involve conduct by Congressman Payne to the same degree.
 - a. As to topic 1, determining the identity of the true sponsor or sponsors implicates the conduct of both Congressman Payne and the Standards Committee. Congressman Payne told the OCE he relied on the Standards Committee to make that determination. It is the Board's view that the Member's approach is reasonable to a point. Once Congressman Payne arrived at the conference, however, he was confronted with information that other corporations were co-sponsors. That information, at least in 2008, does not appear to have been before the Standards Committee when they initially approved the 2008 travel.
 - b. As to topic 2, the intervention of the counsel to the former Chair of the Standards Committee in the Standards Committee's review of the 2007 conference did not involve Congressman Payne. Nonetheless, it directly bears on whether and to what extent the Standards Committee could determine the true sponsor of the conference in 2008.
 - c. As to topic 3, the Board notes that while the difference between the amount that Representative Payne reported and the correct amount is minimal, the amount certified is nevertheless inaccurate.
 - d. As to topic 4, limitations on Carib News Foundation's ability to pay for overseas travel of government officials, Congressman Payne told the OCE he was unaware of any such limitations. The Board finds this statement to be credible. Nonetheless, the law prohibits such payments. Therefore, the Board feels compelled to include a discussion of this issue in this referral.

C. Jurisdictional Statement

8. The allegations that are the subject of this review concern Representative Donald Payne, a Member of the United States House of Representatives from the 10th District of New Jersey. The Resolution the United States House of Representatives adopted creating the Office of Congressional Ethics directs that, "[n]o review shall be undertaken...by the board of any alleged violation that occurred before the date of adoption of this resolution."¹ The House adopted this Resolution on March 11, 2008. Because the conduct under review occurred or relates to actions taken after March 11, 2008, review by the Office of Congressional Ethics is in accordance with the Resolution.

¹ House Resolution 895 of the 110th Congress, Section 1(e).

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D. Procedural History

9. A preliminary review in this matter commenced on March 6, 2009 following a written request by at least two members of the OCE Board which was made on February 23, 2009.
10. At least three members of the Board voted to initiate a second-phase review in this matter on March 27, 2009. The Board voted to extend the second-phase review by 14 days, as provided for under the Resolution, on April 24, 2009.
11. The second-phase review ended on May 26, 2009.
12. The Board voted to refer the matter to the Standards Committee for further review on May 29, 2009.
13. The OCE requested documents from and interviews with representatives of:
 - (1) Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee's Congressional office;
 - (2) the Verizon Foundation;
 - (3) Citibank;
 - (4) American Airlines;
 - (5) IBM;
 - (6) Macy's, Inc;
 - (7) Pfizer;
 - (8) AT&T;
 - (9) Representative Kilpatrick's Congressional office;
 - (10) Representative Payne's Congressional office;
 - (11) Representative Rangel's Congressional office;
 - (12) Representative Thompson's Congressional office;
 - (13) Delegate Christensen's Congressional office;
 - (14) The Carib News; and

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(15) The Carib News Foundation

II. Multiple Entities, Including CARIB NEWS (the Newspaper), the Government of St. Maarten and Several Corporations, Sponsored Representative Payne's Trip

14. *Under House Rule 25 clause 5(d), Members are required to obtain prior approval of the Standards Committee for trips where the Member's travel expenses will be reimbursed by a private source. The Standards Committee has adopted regulations, pursuant to House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B)² that requires Members to identify the "sponsor(s)," i.e. the party reimbursing travel expenses, for any trip where the payor is a private entity.*

15. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Payne violated the requirement that he identify the "true, correct and accurate" sponsor of his travel "to the best of his knowledge" on his Member Post Travel Disclosure Form. While forms submitted to his and the Standards Committee before the conference identified one sponsor—the Carib News Foundation—once at the conference, Congressman Payne was presented with evidence that other corporations were also sponsors. As will be discussed below, those indications proved to be true—these corporations were in fact sponsors of Congressman Payne's travel according to House travel rules because these corporations had donated funds specifically for the conference (i.e. earmarked funds).

A. Representative Payne's Knowledge of The Involvement of These Corporations in the Conference

16. On his Member Post-Travel Disclosure Form, Congressman Payne listed Carib News Foundation as the only sponsor of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten, N.A. (hereafter "the trip" or "conference"³) in November 2008.⁴

² House Rule 25(5)(h)(i)(1)(B) directs the Standards Committee to establish, "regulations describing the information it will require individuals subject to this clause to submit to the committee in order to obtain the prior approval of the committee for any travel covered by this clause . . ." On February 20, 2007, the Committee issued guidelines and regulations concerning the travel restrictions and requirements.

³ The "Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form" asks the filer at question 5, "Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip)." This in turn raises the question is a conference a "trip" or is a trip limited to the travel expenses associated with attending the trip, e.g., transportation, lodging and meal expenses? The House Ethics manual and the relevant forms use the terms "travel" and "trip" interchangeably. For example, the relevant form is called a Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form" (emphasis added). The introductory paragraph on the form provides, "[t]his form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties" (emphasis added). However, question 9 on the form asks the filer to detail, "TRIP EXPENSES" and uses as an example, "registration fees." Registration fees are not "travel" expenses unless one defines travel (or a trip) to include participating in a conference. The Board uses the

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Original Amendment

**U.S. House of Representatives
110th Congress**

**MEMBER / OFFICER
POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM**

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties. You need not disclose government-funded or political travel on this form, or travel that is unrelated to official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report all privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual Financial Disclosure Statement. In accordance with clause 5 of House Rule 25, complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, B-106 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed. The Clerk is to make these forms available to the public as soon as possible after they are received. Obtain the dollar amounts from the sponsor; if exact dollar amounts are unavailable, provide a good faith estimate.

Name of Member or Officer (print or type): Donald Payne

Name of Accompanying Family Member (if any): N/A

Relationship to Member/Officer (check one): Spouse Child Other (specify): _____

Date of Departure and Date of Return: Nov. 6-11, 2008

Dates at personal expense: Nov. 10-11, 2008

Itinerary (Cities of departure - destination - return): Newark, NJ - St. Maarten,
Newark, NJ

Sponsor (Who paid for the trip): Carib News foundation

17. Congressman Payne certified that this information was "true, correct and complete" to the "best of [his] knowledge."⁵

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER OR OFFICER: Donald Payne

DATE: Nov. 19, 2008

term "trip" to include the conference. The Board also notes that the Standards Committee treated the conference as the "trip" in its letter pre-approving Congressman Payne's trip.

⁴ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Representative Donald Payne (Nov. 19, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-4403 0002).

⁵ *Id.*

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18. In an interview with the OCE, Congressman Payne confirmed he signed this document.⁶
19. Prior to the conference, Karl Rodney, the CEO of the Carib News Foundation, submitted a Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form to Congressman Payne, which he in turn submitted to the Standards Committee that identified the Carib News Foundation as the sponsor of the trip.⁷

**U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct**

**PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)**

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

20. Later, on that same form, Mr. Rodney represented that "the trip sponsor(s) [had] not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip."⁸

15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):

21. Rodney also certified that the information was "true, complete, and correct."⁹

⁶ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Donald Payne (May 12, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-4403 0030).

⁷ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form signed by Karl Rodney (Oct. 3, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-4403 0007).

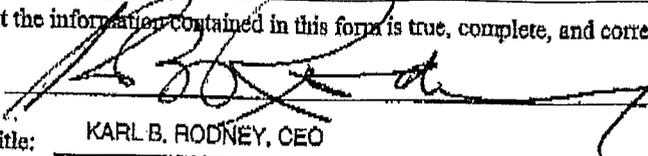
⁸ *Id.*

⁹ *Id.*

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23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

22. Prior to the conference, the Standards Committee approved the reimbursement of Congressman Payne's expenses by the Carib News Foundation.¹⁰

U.S. House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT
Washington, DC 20515

October 16, 2008

The Honorable Donald M. Payne
U.S. House of Representatives
2209 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct hereby approves your proposed trip to St. Maarten, N.A. scheduled for November 6 to 11, 2008 sponsored by the Carib News Foundation. We note that this trip includes 2 days at your personal expense.

23. At the conference, several corporations, including Citibank, IBM, AT&T, and others, were identified as "sponsors."¹¹
24. On November 6, 2009, at the conference's opening dinner, Representative Donald Payne spoke. In an interview with the OCE, Congressman Payne confirmed that he thanked several corporations identified at the conference as "sponsors."¹²

¹⁰ Letter from the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct to Representative Donald M. Payne (Oct. 16, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-4403 0004-5).

¹¹ Photographs taken at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (Exhibit 5 at 09-4403 0066-74) (The Board notes that the source of this information may have a bias, interest, or motive in this matter.).

¹² Memorandum of Interview of Representative Donald Payne (May 12, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-4403 0030).

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25. On November 7, 2008, the conference's organizer, Karl Rodney, began the first morning program by thanking Citigroup, Pfizer, Macy's, IBM, AT&T, the Verizon Foundation and American Airlines, as well as their executives by name, who were present.¹³ This morning session was recorded by an individual attending the conference and the recording was subsequently transcribed. The OCE obtained a copy of the transcript. Mr. Rodney described AT&T as "support[ing] the Conference all 13 years" (this was the thirteenth annual conference).¹⁴
26. Michael Flanigan, an executive from Citibank, spoke immediately after Mr. Rodney and described Citibank as the "lead sponsor of the premier event."¹⁵
27. Following Mr. Flanigan's remarks, and the remarks of several other speakers, Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick spoke. At the end of her remarks she stated, "[a]nd to the sponsors, by the way, all of you, we couldn't do this, be with you, help Karl if you weren't here with us so we say thank you very much, you are so important. To all of the sponsors, thank you very much."¹⁶
28. In an interview with the OCE, Congressman Payne told the OCE he attended the conference from November 5-8.¹⁷
29. In addition to these comments, signs for the conference displayed these corporations' logos, including signs hung behind the speaker's podium.¹⁸

¹³ Transcript of Recording of November 7, 2008 AM Session of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (Exhibit 3 at 09-4403 0033-35) (The Board notes that the source of this information may have a bias, interest, or motive in this matter.).

¹⁴ *Id.*

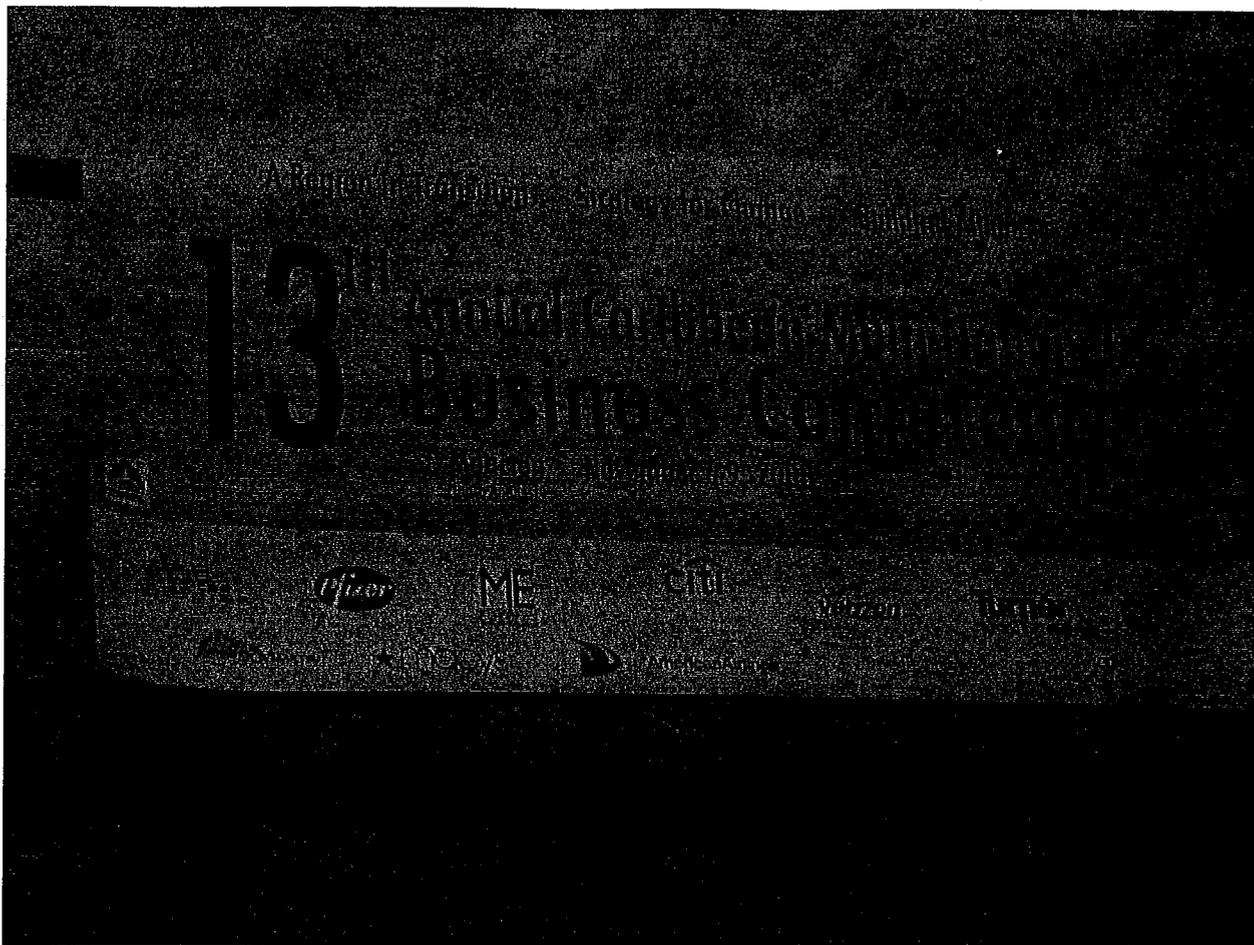
¹⁵ *Id.* at 09-4403 0035.

¹⁶ Transcript of Recording of November 7, 2008 AM Session of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (Exhibit 3 at 09-4403 0050).

¹⁷ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Donald Payne (May 12, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-4403 0030).

¹⁸ Photographs taken at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (Exhibit 5 at 09-4403 0066).

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30. In an interview with the OCE, Congressman Payne stated that he relied on the entity that invited him to the conference, the Carib News Foundation, to identify the sponsor of his trip and, further, that he relied on the Standards Committee, who pre-approved his trip, to determine if that information was accurate.¹⁹ As a result, Congressman Payne told the OCE that the involvement of these corporations in the conference did not raise questions in his mind about whether the Carib News Foundation was the sole sponsor of the conference.²⁰
31. The Board notes that the practice of relying entirely on the Standards Committee to determine the sponsor of a Member's travel carries with it a degree of risk. Further, while Members are required to receive pre-approval from the Standards Committee before they travel, it is the Member, and not the Standards Committee, that is ultimately accepting the travel from a private sponsor. The Board reads the pre-clearance process as

¹⁹ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Donald Payne (May 12, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-4403 0031).

²⁰ *Id.*

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a free-standing requirement the House adopted in 2007. There is no indication that the House intended it to supplant, or at the very least to completely supplant, Members' responsibility to abide by the travel rules when they accept privately sponsored travel. As a result, it is the Board's view that a reasonable reading of the travel rules places responsibility for identifying the sponsor with both the Member and the Standards Committee and not the Standards Committee alone. This shared responsibility also reflects the practical reality that, because the Member actually takes the trip, and the Standards Committee does not, the Member may, in certain circumstances, have access to information about the trip not available to the Standards Committee. In this instance, the Member's had information about the sponsors of the conference not available to the Standards Committee, namely that numerous corporations were identified as sponsors of the conference.

32. Further, as described below, these other entities were, in fact, sponsors of the conference.

B. CARIB NEWS also Sponsored Congressman Payne's Travel

33. Karl Rodney is the publisher of the CARIB NEWS, a weekly newspaper published in New York. He also identified himself as the CEO of the Carib News Foundation on the Private Sponsor Travel Certification described above.²¹

34. According to Mr. Rodney, "general funds" of CARIB NEWS were "pooled" with payments from corporate sponsors, made both to CARIB NEWS and the Carib News Foundation and fees from attendees at the conference to pay conference expenses including "travel" and "hotel payments."²²

35. Therefore, CARIB NEWS was also effectively a sponsor of Congressman Payne's trip.

C. Corporate Donations Were Earmarked for the Conference

36. *According to the House Ethics Manual:*

The rule and implementing regulations are concerned with the organization(s) or individual(s) that actually pay for travel. Thus, for example, when a nonprofit organization pays for travel with donations that were earmarked, either formally or informally, for the trip, each such donor is deemed a —private source for the

²¹ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form signed by Karl A. Rodney (Oct. 16, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-4403 0009).

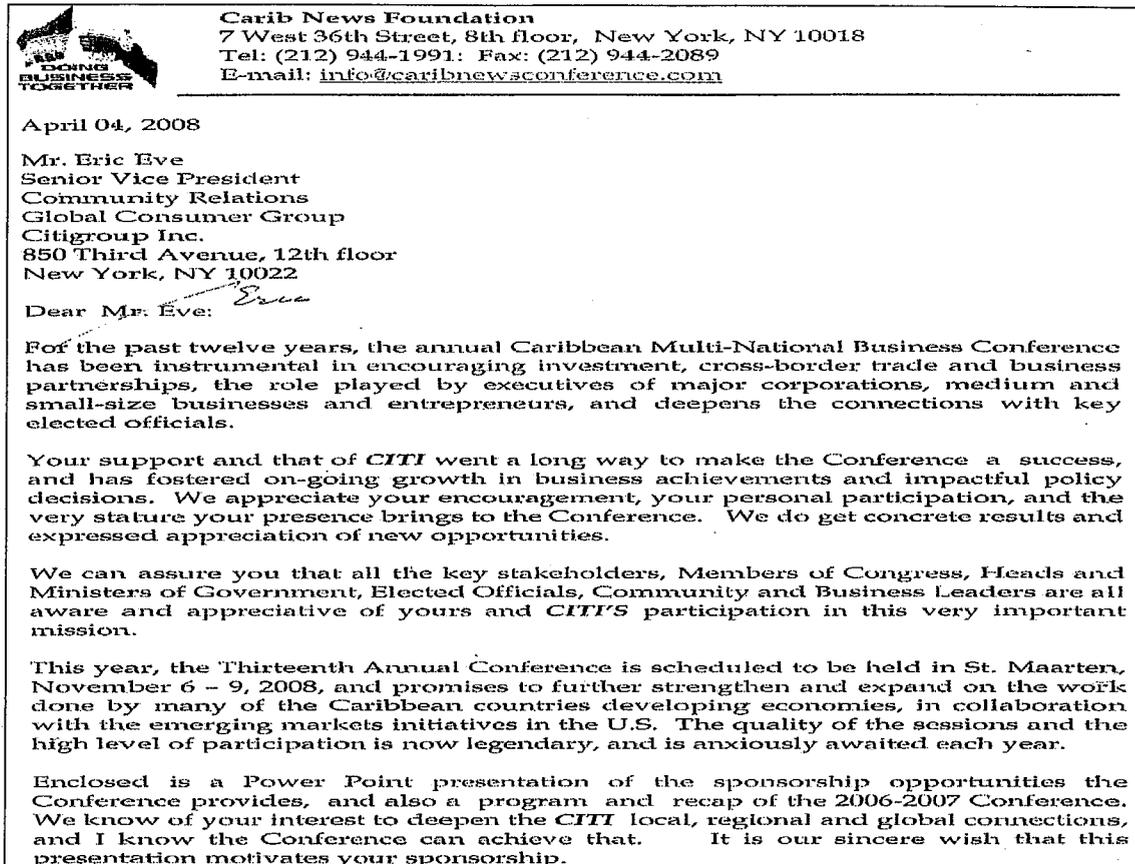
²² Letter from Joel Cohen, Counsel for Karl Rodney (May 18, 2009) (Exhibit 6 at 09-4403 0076-77).

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trip and (1) must be publicly disclosed as a trip sponsor on the applicable travel forms and (2) must itself be required to satisfy the above standards on proper sources of travel expenses.

37. In the course of conducting its review, the OCE has learned that the Carib News Foundation solicited earmarked funds for the conference. For example, Carib News Foundation sent a solicitation letter to Citigroup, Inc.²³



38. Attached to this solicitation letter was a PowerPoint presentation.²⁴ The presentation solicits money only for the conference and not for any other purpose, outlining the benefits of each level of sponsorship – Platinum, Gold, and Silver, along with lesser levels of sponsorship – in terms of the conference.²⁵ In each instance, the sponsorship covers travel related expenses such as gala events and meals.

²³ Letter from Carib News Foundation to Mr. Eric Eve, Citigroup, Inc. (Apr. 4, 2008) (Exhibit 7 at 09-4403 0081-82) (a nearly identical letter was sent to IBM, AT&T, Pfizer, Verizon Foundation and others).

²⁴ *Id.* at 09-4403 0083-98

²⁵ *Id.*

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PARTICIPATION

PLATINUM LEVEL - \$75,000

- ◆ **Keynote Speaker at Main Event**
- ◆ **Sponsor Private VIP Reception and specially arranged forum**
- ◆ **Special Awards Presentation**
- ◆ **Display, Exhibition and signage**
- ◆ **Area of Conference -Reserved for exclusive sponsorship**
- ◆ **Full page Ad in program**
- ◆ **Air Transportation for 2 people**
- ◆ **Accommodations: One Suite and One Standard Room**
- ◆ **Included in all printed materials**
- ◆ **Included in Internet promotion**
- ◆ **Display company logo and link to our website**
- ◆ **Sponsor of a Gala Event**
- ◆ **Sponsor and Participate in a workshop**
- ◆ **Representative listed in program with bio and photo**

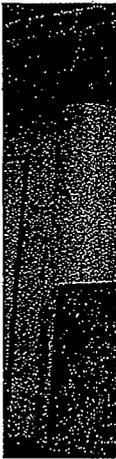
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PARTICIPATION

GOLD LEVEL - \$50,000

- ◆ Sponsor a Workshop
- ◆ Sponsor a Gala Event
- ◆ Display, Exhibition and signage
- ◆ Included in all Printed Material
- ◆ Included in all Internet Promotion
- ◆ Display of Company Logo and Link to Our Website
- ◆ Full Page Ad in Program
- ◆ Representation in the Brochure
- ◆ Air Transportation & room accommodations for 1



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PARTICIPATION

SILVER LEVEL - \$25,000

- ◆ Sponsor & Participate in a Workshop
- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in all printed materials
- ◆ Included in Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Sponsor an event i.e. breakfast, lunch or dinner
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in program with bio & photos
- ◆ Representatives listed in brochure

39. The OCE also learned that at least four of the corporations identified at the conference did, in fact, make payments to the Carib News Foundation and CARIB NEWS (the newspaper) earmarked for the conference. The Carib News Foundation itself appears to

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be nothing more than a conduit in this case, and a partial one at that, for payments from corporations to support the conference. There is no evidence that the organization has filed a tax return with the IRS, under either Carib News Foundation or Carib News Charities, since 2005.²⁶ On its 2005 Form 990, the Carib News Foundation is shown as having no assets, no income and no expenses.²⁷ Not a single witness from a sponsor interviewed by the OCE knew of any other work of the Foundation. Indeed one witness, from IBM, was not aware that the Foundation played a role in the conference.²⁸

40. **Citigroup.** Citigroup made a \$75,000 payment to the CARIB NEWS for the conference.²⁹

41. **Verizon Foundation.** Verizon Foundation made a \$35,000 payment to the Carib News Charities³⁰ for the conference.³¹

²⁶ Letter from IRS to OCE (April 17, 2009) (Exhibit 8 at 09-4403 0103).

²⁷ *Id.* at 09-4403 0103-115.2.

²⁸ Memorandum of Interview of Representative from IBM (May 8, 2009) (Exhibit 9 at 09-4403 0119).

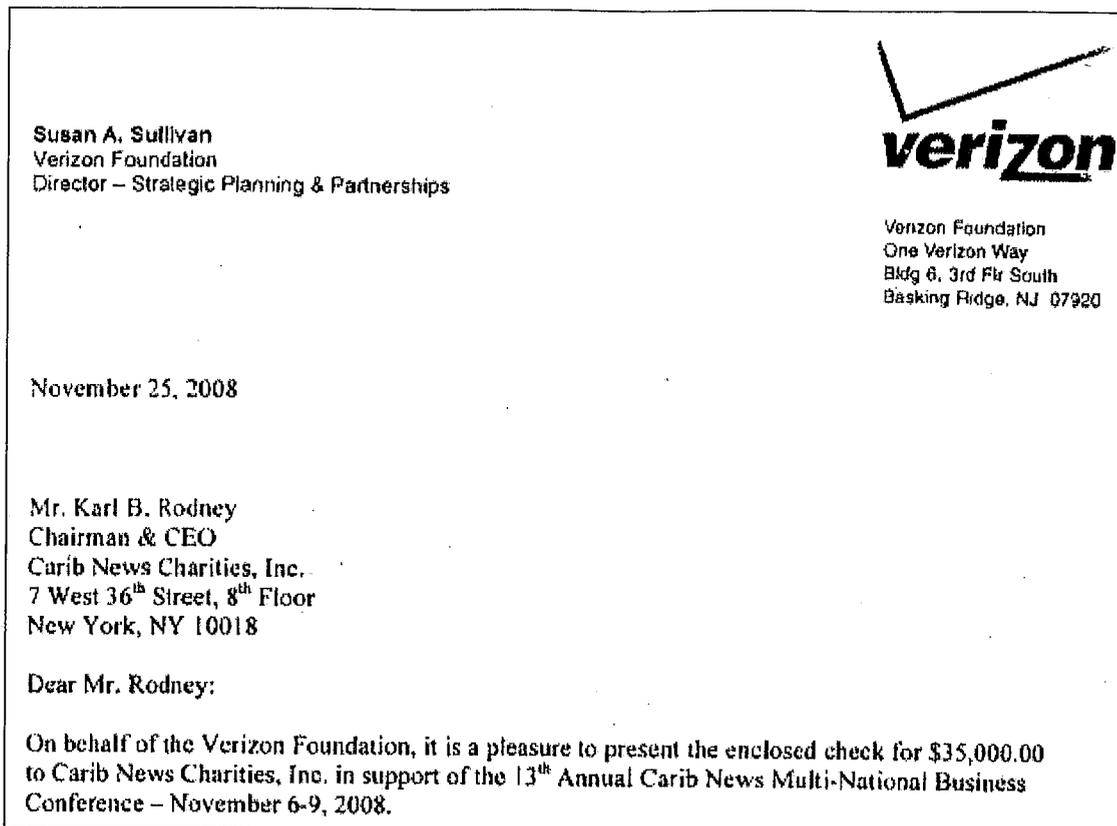
²⁹ Documents submitted to the OCE by Citigroup (Exhibit 7 at 09-4403 0079-98).

³⁰ Mr. Rodney accepted corporate payments under the names of three entities: The Carib News, the Carib News Foundation, and the Carib News Charities. According to the Secretary of State for the State of New York, the organization that currently operates as the Carib News Foundation originally operated under the name the Carib News Charities.

³¹ Documents Submitted to the OCE by the Verizon Foundation (Exhibit 10 at 09-4403 0124-127).

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42. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation said the Verizon Foundation funded the Carib News Foundation for the first time in 2008 and that the grant was issued to provide funding for the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference.³²
43. **IBM.** IBM made a \$20,000 payment to Carib News Foundation for the conference as indicated on the invoice that CARIB NEWS, INC. (not Carib News Foundation) sent IBM.³³

³² Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Verizon Foundation (Mar. 23, 2009) (Exhibit 11 at 09-4403 0130).

³³ Documents submitted by IBM to the OCE (Exhibit 13 at 09-4403 0147).

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CARIB NEWS INC. 7 WEST 36TH STREET 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, 10018 212-944-1991		Invoice	
		Date	Invoice #
		7/16/2008	45122
Bill To			
Wanda McKenzie IBM 2607 Jesters Court Marietta, GA 30068			
Description		Amount	
Sponsorship Multi-National Business Conference 2008 TAX ID 13-362060		20,000.00	

44. **Macy's.** Macy's made a \$35,000 payment to CARIB NEWS for the conference.³⁴
45. **Pfizer.** Pfizer made a \$25,000 payment to CARIB NEWS for the conference.³⁵
46. Only American Airlines explicitly limited their sponsorship of the conference to individuals who were not elected officials, prohibiting CARIB NEWS from using any part of their sponsorship on Members of Congress and other government officials and their staff.³⁶ No other sponsor with whom we spoke placed restrictions on how or on whom their contribution could be spent. The only expectation was that the contribution would be used for expenses associated with the conference.

D. Because Entities that Employ or Retain Lobbyists Sponsored the Event, Congressman Payne's Involvement Should Have Been Limited to One Day

47. *According to the House Ethics Manual:*

³⁴ Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Macy's (Exhibit 20 at 09-4403 0240).

³⁵ Interview with Investigative Counsel on May 22, 2009.

³⁶ Documents submitted by American Airlines to the OCE (Exhibit 14 at 09-4403 0150-154) (American Airlines provided an in-kind contribution in the form of ten roundtrip tickets to be used by Carib News in any manner they chose with the exception that no ticket could be used for an elected official or the official's staff or family. The estimated value of their contribution was between \$6,200 and \$7,500).

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***One-Day Event Trip.** The sole exception to the general prohibition on accepting officially-connected travel from a private source that retains or employs lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal is for trips involving attendance at or participation in one-day event (exclusive of travel time and an overnight stay).*

*Under the rule, it is permissible for a Member or staff person to accept and meals related to a **single night's lodging** and meals related to the trip, if offered by the trip sponsor. Members and staff must limit their involvement in connection with the event to a **single calendar day**, exclusive of travel time and an overnight stay. A Member or staff person may therefore attend only a single day of a multiple-day conference, forum, or other event that is being hosted primarily for individuals other than congressional invitees.*

*Under the Committee's travel regulations and guidelines implementing the travel provisions of the gift rule, the Committee may permit a **second night's stay** when determined —on a case-by-case basis to be practically required to participate in the one-day event (House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)). Some circumstances in which the Committee may permit a second night's stay are for certain long-distance trips, when a Member or staff person is participating in a full day's worth of officially-connected activities such that a second night's stay is necessary to accomplish the purpose of the trip, or other exceptional circumstances that are described in detail by the traveler. The traveler will be personally responsible for any expenses incurred beyond those allowed by the Committee in connection with the second night's stay.³⁷*

48. Citigroup, IBM and Verizon employ or retain lobbyists.³⁸
49. Congressman Payne spent four days at the conference at the expense of the third-party.³⁹
50. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Payne violated *House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)* by accepting trip-related reimbursements from entities that employ or retain lobbyists for participating in an event for more than one day.

³⁷ House Ethics Manual at 92-93 citing (House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)) (emphasis in original).

³⁸ Clerk of the House of Representatives Lobbying Disclosure Report 2008 (excerpt attached hereto as "Exhibit 15").

³⁹ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Representative Donald Payne (Nov. 19, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-4403 0002).

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E. The Government of St. Maarten Made In-Kind Donations to the 2008 Conference and Played a Significant Role in Planning, Organizing and Conducting the 2008 Conference

51. The Government of St. Maarten was the host of the 2008 conference.
52. In that capacity, the Government of St. Maarten provided in-kind donations to support the conference and also had a substantial role in planning the conference. As a result, it was effectively a sponsor of the 2008 conference.⁴⁰
53. Rodney provided the Leader of Government of St. Maarten, Commissioner Sarah Wescott-Williams, with a list of "Basic Requirements to Host Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference."⁴¹ These included:

⁴⁰ In 2007, the "host" of the conference was the Government of Antigua and Barbuda. In the event that the Government of Antigua and Barbuda provided the same support as St. Maarten did in 2008, then the members may have accepted gifts from a foreign government which would have been reportable under the Foreign Gift and Decorations Act. In addition, if the Government of Antigua provided these gifts to the Members, and if they were more than \$335 in value, then the Members should have disclosed them on their financial disclosure form for 2007, which was filed in May 2008.

⁴¹ Letter from Karl Rodney to Commissioner Sarah Wescott-Williams (Aug. 13, 2008) (Exhibit 16 at 09-4403 0163).

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- To provide the care and comfort for the VIP's attending i.e.
 - To provide 25 all-inclusive rooms for the VIP's and members of Congress attending;
 - To provide appropriate mode of transportation for VIP's and members of Congress - cars or specialized vans - not buses;
- To be a designated sponsor in one of the categories: *Title, Main or Regular Sponsor* (See Attachment)
- To organize a "Host Country Evening" - The Friday evening, the host country will host at an appropriate location an evening of food, refreshment, cultural presentation and entertainment.
- Provide for local entertainment for the various functions--
 - The Opening Ceremonies
 - The Reception
 - The Gala Dinner
- To assist in Promotion and Publicity of the conference both locally and through international offices and official publications.
- Assist in securing competitive hotel rates.
- Equip and staff conference secretariat.
- Prime Minister to issue invitations along with CARIB NEWS to members of the US Congress, other Prime Ministers and Ministers of Government.
- Participate in the Forum with Members of Congress.
- Arrange tours and activities of interest for VIP's and/or their spouse.

54. According to a statement from Mr. Rodney submitted to the OCE, the Government of St. Maarten, (1) developed local Host Committees to facilitate local planning; (2) helped negotiate the rate with the hotel, (3) assisted in developing the theme of the Conference, (4) assisted in identifying local speakers, including the Leader of Government, (5) assisted in local publicity, (6) provided local entertainment, including a school choir and cultural items, (7) arranged Host Country Evening on Friday, November 8 (the whole group was transported to another property for refreshments and entertainment), (8) helped with local transportation for some CARIB NEWS employees and helped arrange accommodations for some guests (not paying for such accommodations), (9) participated as event speakers, and (10) issued invitations to attend to specially invited guests.⁴²

⁴² Letter from Joel Cohen, Counsel for Karl Rodney (May 18, 2009) (Exhibit 6 at 09-4403 0076-77).

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These contributions to the conference were all in-kind, according to Mr. Rodney, and he did not provide an estimated value for them.⁴³

55. In addition, because these donations to the conference are from a foreign government, Members are required to take certain actions under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act.⁴⁴
56. Representative Payne told the OCE that he was unaware of what role the Government of St. Maarten played in the conference.⁴⁵

III. Role of the Chair's Counsel in the Approval of the 12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in 2007

57. As previously stated, Congressman Payne told the OCE that he relied on the Standards Committee to determine who the true sponsor of the conference was based on information the Standards Committee received from the organization that invited him to the conference—the Carib News Foundation.⁴⁶ In the course of the Board's review, the OCE requested documents from Mr. Karl Rodney, the CEO of the Carib News Foundation. Mr. Rodney voluntarily submitted documents to the OCE that included, among other things, communication with certain members of the staff of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct in 2007. The contents of these documents from 2007 are relevant because they indicate the role of the corporations was concealed from the Committee in 2008.
58. The Board requested that the Committee provide the information submitted to it for 2008 and the Committee declined to do so.
59. The documents submitted by Mr. Rodney show that in 2007 the CARIB NEWS initially identified, on several occasions, other corporations as sponsors of the Conference. The designation of these corporate entities as sponsors presented a problem for CARIB NEWS and the Members who wished to attend the conference insofar as their attendance would be limited to one day. In 2007, as a result of changes in the travel rules, a Member could not, in most instances, participate in an event (such as a conference) for more than one day if their travel to and participation in the event was paid for by an entity that

⁴³ *Id.*

⁴⁴ 5 U.S.C. § 7342.

⁴⁵ *Id.*

⁴⁶ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Donald Payne (May 12, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-4403 0030).

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employed or retained a lobbyist.⁴⁷ Many of the corporate entities who sponsored the 2007, as well as the 2008 conference, employed or retained lobbyists. Although CARIB NEWS initially identified these entities as sponsors, following interactions with the counsel to the then-chair of the Committee, apparently without the knowledge of the Standards Committee staff attorney assigned to review the trip, the documents identifying these organizations as sponsors were changed.

60. Subsequently, in 2008, the Carib News Foundation submitted documents that omitted the role of these other corporations as sponsors of the conference. Further, the staff attorney assigned to review the trip in 2008 was not the same staff attorney that reviewed the trip in 2007.
61. The earliest communication between CARIB NEWS or the Carib News Foundation and anyone associated with the Ethics Committee in the documents submitted to the OCE from Mr. Rodney is an e-mail dated September 17, 2007 from Patricia Louis, an Executive Assistant at CARIB NEWS, to Dawn Kelly Mobley, Counsel to the then-Chair of the Ethics Committee.⁴⁸
62. The next day, on September 18, 2007, Ms. Mobley responded and asked for "any information on your sponsor's status."⁴⁹
63. That same day Ms. Louis responded, indentifying multiple corporations as "sponsors" of the trip.⁵⁰

⁴⁷ House Ethics Manual (2008) at 92-93 (citing House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)).

⁴⁸ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Sept. 17, 2007, 3:47 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0212) (The Board elected not to interview Ms. Mobley and Ms. Olson because the Standards Committee voted against disclosing information to the OCE. The Board determined that it would have been an act of bad faith on the part of the OCE to attempt to interview staff and former staff of the Standards Committee in light of the Committee's refusal to grant OCE access to their records.).

⁴⁹ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 18, 2007, 12:57 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0212).

⁵⁰ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Sept. 18, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0212) (The Board notes that while the document that contains the e-mail does not have a header which indicates a date and time, both the e-mail before it and responding to it are dated September 18, 2007).

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**We had received the forms from Shelley.
The sponsors to date are : MACYS, PFIZER, AMERICAN AIRLINES, GOLDEN KRUST
BAKERY, CARIBBEAN FOOD DELIGHTS, PREFERRED HEALTH PARTNERS, IBM,
AT&T/CINGULAR**

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

64. In response that same day, Ms. Mobley asked, “[d]o any of these organizations have or retain a lobbyist?”⁵¹
65. The next day, Ms. Mobley further responded asking Ms. Louis whether she, Ms. Mobley, should “assume” the sponsor was CARIB NEWS, despite the fact that Ms. Louis had not identified CARIB NEWS as a sponsor.⁵² The Board notes that in her e-mail, Ms. Louis did not identify CARIB NEWS as a sponsor. Further, Ms. Mobley acknowledged that she had been told corporations identified by Ms. Louis were “sponsoring food and other parts of the Antigua travel.” Under House rules in place at the time, and under current rules, sponsoring a meal makes these corporations sponsors of a Member’s travel.⁵³ The Board also notes Ms. Mobley’s use of the phrase “safe review,” which the Board takes to mean a review which results in approval of the trip.

⁵¹ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 18, 2007, 7:03 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0211).

⁵² E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 19, 2007, 2:16 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0211).

⁵³ House Ethics Manual (2008) at 97-98.

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From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 2:16 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Patricia:

I understand that several organizations will take part in sponsoring food and other parts of the Antigua travel. However, I need clarification on the *official* sponsor; that organization providing travel, lodging, and organizing the trip? Am I to assume it is CARIB NEWS? The official sponsoring organization must not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent (and the sponsor must have a direct and immediate relationship with the event or location being visited). To assist with this, I am scanning information/guidelines and emailing in just a moment. Please provide a fax number if that method of submittal will be more helpful. If there is someone handling this matter, please provide me their direct contact information as I must ensure adherence to these new guidelines pre-travel.

In any event, I do need to know who the official sponsor will be. I have assigned a staff attorney to review your documents and will remain in contact with you until this matter is finalized.

Please respond today or tomorrow at the latest. I will be traveling for a while thereafter and must ensure that my staff attorney has all that is necessary for a safe review.

Dawn Kelly Mobley
Ethics Counsel for Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones
Chairwoman, Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. of Representatives.
Washington, DC 20515
202/226-7403

66. Later in the afternoon on September 19, 2007, Ms. Mobley sent Ms. Louis another e-mail where she discussed the limitations posed by the new travel rules the House had adopted in 2007. Ms. Mobley told Ms. Louis, "the new rules might prohibit some things you were able to do with so many different sponsors in the past." Thus, Ms. Mobley again acknowledged that these corporations were sponsors and that the new travel rules affected the nature of their participation in the trip.⁵⁴

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 3:23 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Lastly, just send the sponsor form asap for review. The new rules might prohibit some things you were able to do with so many different sponsors in the past, but until we get the form, we can't make the most informed decision. I have let the Congresswomen know we are awaiting your sponsor form. Just as you do, they would also like assurance. Thank you.

67. On September 21, 2007, Ms. Louis responded.⁵⁵

⁵⁴ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 19, 2007, 3:23 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0211).

⁵⁵ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Sept. 21, 2007, 1:56 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0209).

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Registration

From: plouls [plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2007 1:56 PM
To: 'Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Re Sponsorship Information

The official sponsor of the conference is the CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION, a not-for-profit 501C3 Organization that provides educational information about the Caribbean Region and its relationship with the US in doing business and developing good neighborly ties with the United States, security, health, education etc.

The CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION does not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent.

Please use me as your contact for the purposes of this Conference.

The form will be emailed to you this afternoon.

Regards

Patricia Lewis

Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

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68. That same day, on September 21, 2007, Ms. Louis faxed Ms. Mobley a Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form. On the form Carib News Foundation is listed as the sponsor of the trip in question 1.⁵⁶

**U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct**

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

Carib News Foundation

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): _____

69. However, the Carib News Foundation listed a number of corporations as private sponsors, each with responsibility for planning and conducting the trip, in question 12.⁵⁷ This is at least the second instance where the Carib News Foundation identified these corporations as the trip's sponsors.

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: Pfizer-Education/health
AT&T and IBM - provide technology to the region. MAOY's - seeks new vendor sources, Citibank- opportunities
in the region.

70. This prompted the following e-mail from Ms. Mobley to Ms. Louis.⁵⁸ The Board notes that Ms. Mobley stated she was "working through" the Carib News Foundation's forms "before leaving them with our staff attorney."

⁵⁶ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form (Sept. 21, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0199).

⁵⁷ *Id.*

⁵⁸ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 25, 2007, 12:42 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0196).

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From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2007 12:42 PM
To: 'plouis'
Subject: Query

I am working through your forms before leaving them with our staff attorney and have a question. Query: Why did you not list CARIB NEWS as the sponsor as you'd indicated instead of Macy's, etc. The official sponsor for travel, lodging, and planning is still Carib News, correct?

71. Later that same day, Ms. Mobley queried further.⁵⁹ At least as of this date, following at least two instances where Ms. Louis identified these corporations as sponsors, Ms. Mobley appeared to treat these entities as "co-sponsors."

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:08 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Query

We are trying to work through a problem in approving the co-sponsors piece. Are they each paying for a one-day, widely attended event or more days? Please read the Gift Rules I forwarded you on this matter.

72. On October 3, 2007, Ms. Mobley informed Ms. Louis that Susan Olson was the staff attorney assigned to review the trip.⁶⁰

73. A copy of the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form provided to a Member's office on October 5, 2007, shows that by October 5, 2007, following its interaction with Ms. Mobley, Carib News Foundation changed its answer to question 12 regarding other private sponsors. As previously highlighted, as of September 21, 2007, Carib News Foundation provided the following answer to question 12.⁶¹

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: Pfizer-Education/Health
AT&T and IBM - provide technology to the region. MAOY's - seeks new vendor sources, Citibank - opportunities
in the region.

74. However, as of October 5, 2007, it provided a different answer to question 12.⁶²

⁵⁹ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 25, 2007, 5:08 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0196).

⁶⁰ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 3, 2007, 12:39 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0193).

⁶¹ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form (Sept. 21, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0200).

⁶² Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form (Oct. 5, 2007) (Exhibit 18 at 09-4403 0215).

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12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (SEE ATTACHED SHEET)

And the attached sheet provided the following information.⁶³

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

On October 10, 2007, Susan Olson, the staff attorney on the Standards Committee assigned to review the trip e-mailed Ms. Louis the following questions⁶⁴ (and copied Ms. Mobley and the Chief Counsel of the Standards Committee at that time, Bill O'Reilly). While the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form for the trip had been changed by this date, the draft agenda for the conference apparently had not and still showed corporate sponsors for various events. What Ms. Olson does not appear to be aware of is the fact that Carib News Foundation had previously identified the same corporations she is raising questions about as private sponsors on its original Private Sponsor Travel Certification form.

Original Message
From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn Kelly Mobley@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's

⁶³ *Id.* at 09-4403 0219

⁶⁴ E-mail from Susan Olson to Patricia Louis (Oct. 10, 2007, 4:01 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0181-182).

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(Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring" sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]" which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

75. The Committee's Advisory Opinion dated October 27, 2006 indicates, as Ms. Olson wrote, that Carib News Foundation told the Standards Committee in 2006 that there were several corporate entities that sponsored the conference.⁶⁵ The "Advisory Opinion" did not conclude that these entities were, in fact, the trip's sponsors, as the e-mail seems to indicate.

⁶⁵ Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, Advisory Opinion (Oct. 27, 2006) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0205-207).

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76. A draft agenda for the conference dated October 3, 2007, identified a “sponsor” for each event listed.⁶⁶ This appears to be the version of the agenda that Olson is referring to in her e-mail. For example, “Preferred Health Partners” is identified as the sponsor of this event on “Port & Airport Security—The Mandates.”⁶⁷

<u>PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES</u>	
Moderator	Lance Opste
	Hon. Bennie Thompson
	Dr. Basil Wilson
Venue	
Sponsor	Preferred Health Partners

And Citi is identified as the sponsor of this event on “Community Outreach – Education – Access and Collaboration.”⁶⁸

4:00pm - 5:30pm	-	<u>COMMUNITY OUTREACH -</u>
		<u>EDUCATION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION</u>
Venue:	-	Off Site
Sponsor	-	CITI
Moderator:	-	Michael Flanigan
Speakers:	-	Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College
		Hon. Danny Davis - Member of Congress
		Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City
		Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress
		Hon. Bertrand Joseph

⁶⁶ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 3, 2007) (Exhibit 19 at 09-4403 0221-237).

⁶⁷ *Id.* at 09-4403 0226-227.

⁶⁸ *Id.* at 09-4403 0223.

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77. Ms. Louis forwarded Ms. Olson's e-mail to Ms. Mobley, Congressman Charles Rangel's Chief of Staff George Dalley and Delegate Donna Christensen's scheduler Shelley Thomas, and asked them to advise her on a response.⁶⁹

-----Original Message-----
From: plouis <plouis@nycarbnews.com>
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn Thomas, Shelley Dalley, George
Sent: Wed, Oct 10 17:56:25 2007
Subject: FW: Carb News - Pre-trip Approval issues

Please see e-mail I received from Ms. Olson of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

A possible response could be: The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation. As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Please advise us.

Regards and Thanks

Ms. Louis appears to be pre-clearing her response to questions posed by the Standards Committee staff attorney. There is no indication that the staff attorney knew that the answer to her question had already been discussed with the counsel to the then-chair of the Standards Committee. Substantively, based on documents obtained by the OCE and interviews with sponsors, the statement "the sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip" appears to be true. However, the statement "and the general work of the Foundation," does not appear to be true. All of the sponsors OCE interviewed stated unequivocally that the contribution was intended for the conference.⁷⁰

⁶⁹ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley, George Dalley, and Shelley Thomas (Oct. 10, 2007, 5:56 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0187).

⁷⁰ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of IBM (May 8, 2009) (Exhibit 9); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation (Mar. 23, 2009) (Exhibit 11); Memorandum of Interview of Representative of Citi (Mar. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 4); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Macy's (May 28, 2009) (Exhibit 20).

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78. Less than an hour later Ms. Mobley responded.⁷¹ The Board notes Ms. Mobley's concern with whether any of the corporate sponsors paid for an event and also retained a lobbyist⁷² and her conclusion that if they did, Members of Congress could only attend for one day.

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 6:49 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Her question centers on whether any of these "co-sponsors" retains a lobbyist or foreign. This is the issue you and I focused on previously. It is a central problem if any do and are paying for the events. If so, you are in the same position as last year with one-day events. Call Susan back tomorrow as early as possible. Hopefully, these co-sponsors don't retain lobbyists, but you should have their representations on this matter. At a minimum, Macy's does, right? Alternatively, if they are only sponsoring event tables or the like, a lobbyist will not be problematic.

Sent using BlackBerry

79. Ms. Louis then faxed Ms. Mobley.⁷² The Board notes that Ms. Louis again appears to be pre-clearing her responses to the staff attorney, Ms. Olson, with Ms. Mobley ("Kindly review and advise before I send to Ms. Olson.").

⁷¹ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 10, 2007, 6:49 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0187).

⁷² Fax from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Oct. 11, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0184).

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THE NEW YORK CARIBNEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
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TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Dawn Kelly Mobley FROM: P. Louis *P. Louis*
COMPANY: Ethics Counsel for Cong. Stephanie Tubbs Jones DATE: 10/11/07
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392 TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: Travel Form

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Further to our conversations of this morning, following is the Travel Certification Form ..

The Conference is paid for by the Carib News Foundation. The companies are participants, are not sponsors or co-sponsors for any part of the trip and play no role in the planning or content.

The program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants

I regret the mis-understanding and thank you for holding my hand as I go through and grow through this process which is new to me.

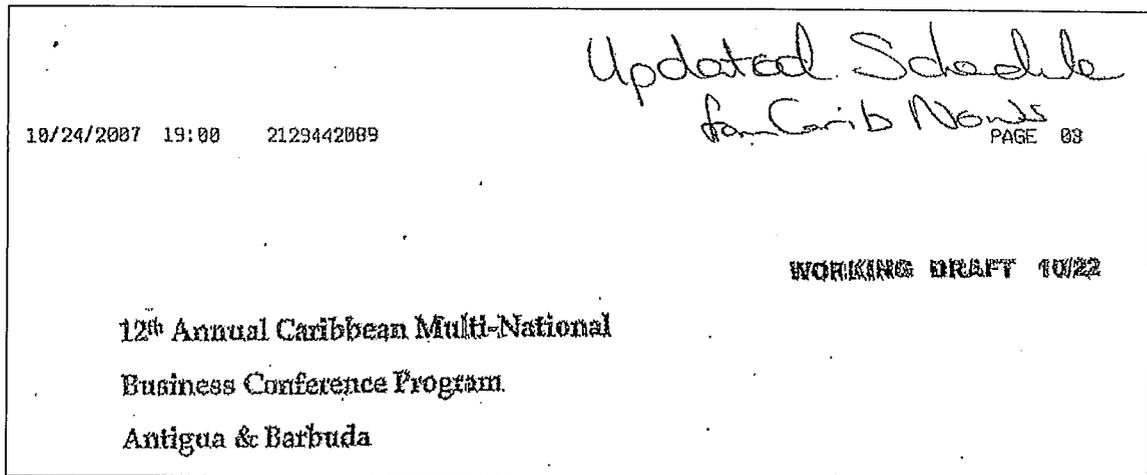
Kindly review and advise before I send to Ms. Olsen.

I look forward to hearing from you.

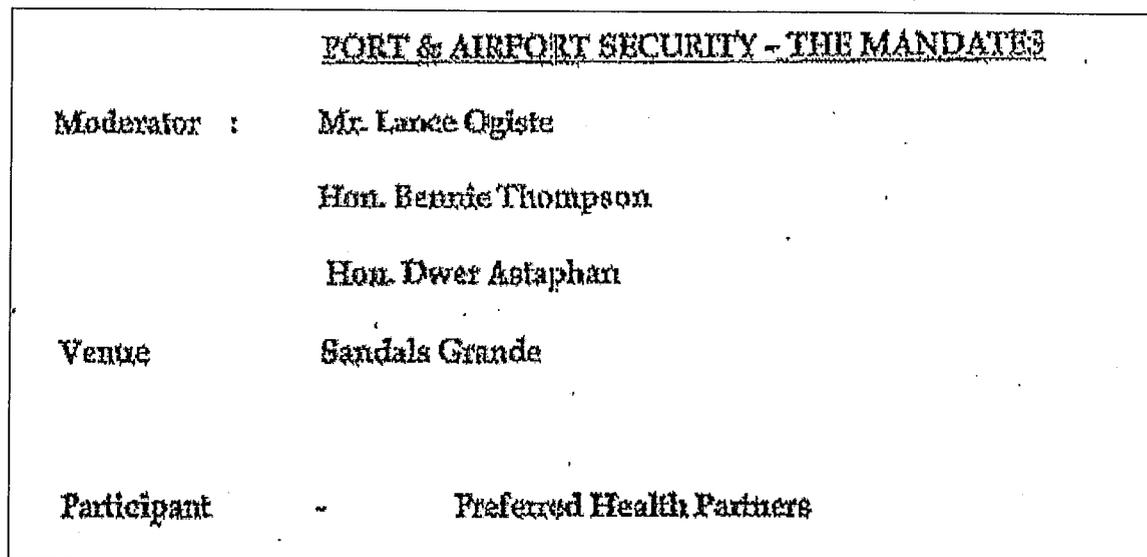
80. The Board further notes that Ms. Louis represented that, "the program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants," an action taken following Ms. Louis' interactions with Ms. Mobley. A copy of the revised agenda was submitted by another

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Member of Congress who attended the conference.⁷³ The Board notes that this “updated” schedule changed the label applied to “sponsors” to “participants” and in some cases deleted any mention of the corporate entity that had previously been identified as a “sponsor.”



81. This event was previously identified in the earlier draft as being “sponsored” by Preferred Health Partners.⁷⁴ Now it identifies them as merely a “participant.”⁷⁵



⁷³ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 22, 2007) (Exhibit 21 at 09-4403 0243).

⁷⁴ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 3, 2007) (Exhibit 19 at 09-4403 0226-227).

⁷⁵ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 22, 2007) (Exhibit 21 at 09-4403 0247).

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82. In another example, the Board notes that the following event was previously identified as being sponsored by CITI.⁷⁶ Now CITI is not even mentioned.⁷⁷ Michael Flanigan, the moderator, was an executive at CITI at the time and represented the company at the conference.⁷⁸

5:00pm - 6:30pm	-	COMMUNITY OUTREACH - <u>EDUCATION & YOUTH DIRECTION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION</u>
Venue:	-	Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Center
Moderator:	-	Michael Flanigan
Speakers:	-	Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress Hon. Bertrand Joseph

83. These changes were entirely cosmetic. There is no indication that the corporations' substantive role in the conference changed in any way.

84. That same day, October 11, 2007, Ms. Louis responded to Ms. Olson, stating that "[t]he sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip."⁷⁹ The Board notes that this is precisely the answer she had pre-cleared with Mobley.

⁷⁶ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 3, 2007) (Exhibit 19 at 09-4403 0223).

⁷⁷ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 22, 2007) (Exhibit 20 at 09-4403 0253).

⁷⁸ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of Citi (Mar. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 4 at 09-4403 0060).

⁷⁹ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Susan Olson (Oct. 10, 2007, 10:33 AM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0181).

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From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:33 AM
To: Olson, Susan
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,
In response to your e-mail:
The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation.
As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

No federally registered lobbyist or foreign agent will be accompanying the Members or participating in the program.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

85. Ms. Olson then forwarded her exchange with Ms. Louis to Bill O'Reilly, the Staff Director and Chief Counsel of the Ethics Committee at that time, and to Dawn Mobley.⁸⁰ Based on this e-mail, it appears that Ms. Olson was unaware that Mobley had been communicating directly with the Carib News Foundation. There is also no evidence that Ms. Mobley told her she had been involved in this manner. Witnesses for the various sponsors told the OCE that they did contribute funding directly to the trip (the conference) and in no case did they simply make donations to the "general funds" of the CARIB NEWS or the Carib News Foundation.⁸¹

⁸⁰ E-mail from Susan Olson to Bill O'Reilly and Dawn Kelly Mobley (Oct. 12, 2007 9:29 AM) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0181-182).

⁸¹ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of IBM (May 8, 2009) (Exhibit 9); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation (Mar. 23, 2009) (Exhibit 11); Memorandum of Interview of Representative of Citi (Mar. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 4); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Macy's (May 28, 2009) (Exhibit 20).

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From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:29 AM
To: O'Reilly, Bill; Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Bill and Dawn,
Please note the following response from Ms. Louis at Carib News: Unfortunately, it appears that if each sponsor contributes funding directly to the trip (an earmark of funds) and not simply to the general funds of Carib News, then the assumption is that all of these entities are co-sponsors of the trip for purposes of the House travel rules. If that is the case and since it is likely that at least one of these co-sponsors hires or retains a federally registered lobbyist, the trip could only be a one-day event trip. Thus the Committee can't approve the trip as it currently exists.

But, if you have a different interpretation of the below information from Ms. Louis, please do let me know. Thanks! Susan

86. Ms. Mobley then forwarded Ms. Olson's internal e-mail to Ms. Louis.⁸² The Board notes that Ms. Mobley counseled that these "other organizations" can "participate" in the program but "should not help pay for the trip."

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:59 AM
To: 'plouis'
Subject: FW: Confidential

Please read both emails below. Give Susan a call as soon as you work through the kink, let her know you are following up. Please make yourself available to work through this matter today. Thank you Patricia. (These other organizations can participate in the program but should not help pay for the trip).

87. Later that day, Ms. Mobley sent Ms. Louis an additional e-mail.⁸³ As previously stated, the sponsors whom the OCE interviewed all stated that they did not "support [the] foundation annually" and did specifically designate their donations for the 2007 conference. Either Ms. Mobley was repeating inaccurate information Ms. Louis had given her, or she was giving inaccurate information to Ms. Olson without prompting.

⁸² E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 12, 2007 9:59 AM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0180).

⁸³ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 12, 2007 1:55 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0180).

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Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 1:55 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Confidential

The fax did not come through. I will be stepping out of the office for the remainder of the day, but will be in early Monday. Please follow up again with Susan. I have explained that the organizations you labeled as co-sponsors are not. They support your foundation annually, but have not and will not pay for the Members trip. This is simply a misunderstanding of the terms "sponsor", "contributor", and "participant" as used in the Ethics rules which is why I sent you the Rules book for preparation.

Once you are able to clarify these issues and make sure your Itinerary passes too, you should be fine. An Ethics Committee Staff Attorney must review and approve as well. Your Staff Attorney is Susan.

88. Ms. Olson then sent Ms. Louis additional questions about the corporate entities previously identified as "sponsors."⁸⁴

From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 2:41 PM
To: plouis
cc: Kelly Mobley, Dawn; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Louis,

Please explain in more detail your email message below relative to the "sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip." In this regard, do the following entities pay for any of the expenses of the trip for the invited House Members, including roundtrip air transportation costs, lodging costs, meal costs, cost of a particular meal or reception, etc.?

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM

⁸⁴ E-mail from Susan Olson to Patricia Louis (Oct. 12, 2007 2:41 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0175-176).

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- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

89. Three days later, Ms. Louis sent an e-mail to Ms. Mobley, but addressed to Ms. Olson.⁸⁵ This may have been inadvertent or, based on their previous practice, Ms. Louis may have done this before she then sent it to Ms. Olson. This is the final communication regarding the 2007 conference provided to the OCE.

From: plouis [plouis@nyocaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 11:00 AM
To: 'Kelly Mobley, Dawn'
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,
In response to your e-mail, the answer to your question is NO.

Regards and Thanks for your patience.

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

90. In an interview with the OCE, a staff member of Representative Rangel's office, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office, described discussions with Ms. Louis and Ms. Mobley in 2007 on the topic of how the new travel rules would affect the Members' participation in the 2007 conference.⁸⁶ The staff member said that Ms. Louis, and Mr. and Mrs. Rodney told him that the then Chair of the Standards Committee had assigned

⁸⁵ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Oct. 18, 2007 11:00 AM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-4403 0175).

⁸⁶ Memorandum of Interview of Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office (May 27-28, 2009) (Exhibit 22 at 09-4403 0257-0258).

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her counsel on the Committee, Ms. Mobley, to “find a way” to allow Members of Congress to participate in the conference under the new travel rules passed by the House in 2007.⁸⁷ The staff member told the OCE that Congressman Rangel told him that the then-Chair had made similar statements to him.

91. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel’s Office said the “framework” that was decided upon was that the Carib News Foundation would raise money from corporate donors who had previously sponsored the conference and that this money in turn would be deposited in a “common fund” that would then be used to pay for the conference. It was Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel’s Office’s understanding that if this was done, then Members of Congress could participate in the conference without any restrictions imposed by the new rules. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel’s Office said that it was important to break the link between the corporations and the conference under the new rules and that using the Foundation in this way would enable that to happen. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel’s Office said he learned of this new framework for the conference from Mr. and Mrs. Rodney and that they represented this approach had come from Ms. Mobley on the Standards Committee.
92. This conduct in 2007 is relevant to the present reviews for a number of reasons. First, in and of itself, the intervention of the Chair’s counsel in this matter is troubling and more likely constituted an improper manipulation of the clearance process. Following Ms. Mobley’s intervention, Carib News Foundation changed the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form to delete any mention of private sponsors before it was sent to the Standards Committee’s staff attorney assigned to review the matter. This occurred after Carib News Foundation had told Ms. Mobley that these corporations were sponsors of the conference on several occasions. Ms. Louis’s initial, and presumably truthful, submissions regarding the conference described the corporate entities as sponsors. However, if the corporations were sponsors of the conference, as opposed to Carib News Foundation, then the Members of Congress ability to attend would have been limited because, the corporations, unlike the Carib News Foundation, employed or retained lobbyists. It appears from the correspondence between Ms. Mobley and Ms. Louis, and Ms. Olson’s apparent ignorance of the correspondence, that Ms. Mobley assisted Ms. Louis in preparing inaccurate answers for Ms. Olson in order to ensure that Ms. Olson would approve the trip in a manner that would not limit the attendance of the Members of Congress. Ms. Mobley’s involvement in the process seems to have prevented the Standards Committee and its staff from correctly performing its responsibilities. Ms. Olson’s approval of the trip was predicated on an incomplete or inaccurate factual record,

⁸⁷ *Id.* at 09-2567 0258.

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in which Ms. Mobley apparently was complicit, putting at risk those Members of Congress who relied on that approval.

93. The 2007 conduct and attendant misrepresentations appear to have directly influenced what occurred in 2008. When the Carib News Foundation submitted materials to the Standards Committee for their approval of the 2008 conference, the Carib News Foundation took the same approach that they had been counseled to take in 2007 and did not disclose the role of the corporate sponsors on the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form or the conference agenda.
94. In fact, in 2008, Carib News Foundation again first submitted its document to Ms. Mobley.⁸⁸ The Board notes that while Ms. Mobley remains an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives as of the date of this report, the above described conduct did not occur after the day the House passed the resolution creating the OCE, and therefore, under the terms of the that resolution, the OCE does not have jurisdiction to open a preliminary review into Ms. Mobley's conduct.

 THE NEW YORK CARIBNEWS <small>THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 23 FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018</small>	
TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089 E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM ; CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET	
FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET	
TO: Kelly Mobley	FROM: Patricia Louis
COMPANY: Committee on Standards of official conduct	DATE: 8/20/08
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: 2008 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> URGENT <input type="checkbox"/> FOR REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE REPLY <input type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION	
Following is the completed form and attachments re travel for Members of Congress to attend the 2008 Multinational Business Conference scheduled for November 6-9, 2008 in St. Maarten.	
Regards	

⁸⁸ Fax from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Aug. 20, 2008) (Exhibit 23 at 09-4403 0263).

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IV. The Value of the Trip Reported on the Member's Post-Travel Disclosure Form

95. *Under House Rule 25 clause 5(d), Members are required to obtain prior approval of the Standards Committee for trips where the Member's travel expenses will be reimbursed by a private source. The Standards Committee has adopted regulations, including a pre- and post-travel form Members must complete, pursuant to House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B)⁸⁹ that requires Members to publicly disclose "trip expenses."*
96. *According to the House Ethics Manual, "[t]he rule and implementing regulations are concerned with the organization(s) or individual(s) that actually pay for travel." House Ethics Manual (2008) at 97.*
97. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Payne violated House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B) by underreporting the value of the travel reimbursements he received to attend the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference.

A. Representations from Carib News Foundation

98. Carib News Foundation submitted a Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form to each Member it sponsored for the 2008 trip—Representatives Christensen, Kilpatrick, Payne, Rangel and Thompson.⁹⁰ This form was provided to each Member Office and then submitted by the Member Office to the Standards Committee as part of the pre-travel approval process.

⁸⁹ House Rule 25(5)(h)(i)(1)(B) directs the Standards Committee to establish, "regulations describing the information it will require individuals subject to this clause to submit to the committee in order to obtain the prior approval of the committee for any travel covered by this clause . . ." On February 20, 2007, the Committee issued guidelines and regulations concerning the travel restrictions and requirements.

⁹⁰ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form signed by Karl Rodney (Oct. 3, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-4403 0009).

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21. **TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:**

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	410	280	145
For each accompanying family member	410	0	145

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$150 \$ 25	Conference Registration Local transportation
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Name and title: KARL E. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

99. The Board notes that the Carib News Foundation provided the same exact dollar figure with very minor variations for each Member of Congress that attended the conference despite the fact that Carib News Foundation recognized on the same form that the Congressional travelers were travelling to and from different cities. In fact, the Congressional travelers came from St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands; Detroit, Michigan; Newark, New Jersey; New York, New York; and Jackson, Mississippi.

100. In addition, according to Mr. Rodney, the cost charged to "the public" to attend the conference for four days and three nights was \$840 for double occupancy or \$1085 for single occupancy.⁹¹ The cost of attendance included "room accommodations, meals, and admission to the Conference."⁹² However, these figures were not disclosed pre-travel to

⁹¹ Letter from Joel Cohen, Counsel for Karl Rodney (May 18, 2009) (Exhibit 6 at 09-4403 0076-77).

⁹² *Id.*

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the Members or the Standards Committee, nor were these figures disclosed to the Members after the conference.

B. Information Required from the Congressional Traveler

101. On his Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form,⁹³ Representative Payne certified his travel cost as the following:

TRIP EXPENSES:			
	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses
For Member or Officer:	\$410.00	\$405.00	
For accompanying family member:			
	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Specific Nature of Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)	
For Member or Officer:		\$175.00	
For accompanying family member:			

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER OR OFFICER: Donald Payne

DATE: Nov. 19, 2008

102. In his interview, Congressman Payne stated that he did not see any documented dollar amounts for the registration fee or for the cost of meals. He thought the pre-travel form contained that information. He also stated that he does not handle the paperwork for his travel and he did not review the post-travel report for this trip. His staff handles all aspects of travel for him.⁹⁴

⁹³ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Representative Donald Payne (Nov. 19, 2008) (Exhibit at 09-4403 0003).

⁹⁴ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Donald Payne (May 12, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-4403 0030).

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103. Documents obtained from Mr. Rodney and Mr. Payne indicate his transportation costs were slightly higher than those reported.⁹⁵ While the difference between the reported and actual cost is *de minimis*, the amount that was reported was, nevertheless, inaccurate.

Continental Airlines				Confirmation: AK13X5	Print your boarding pass at within 24 hours of your flight 
Issue Date: October 23, 2008					
Traveler PAYNE/DONALDMR	eTicket Number 0052173750461	Frequent Flyer	Seats 19F/16F		
FLIGHT INFORMATION					
Day, Date	Flight Class	Departure City and Time	Arrival City and Time	Aircraft	Meal
Thu, 06NOV08	CO861 I	NEWARK EWR (EWR) 7:45AM	ST MAARTEN AN (SXM) 12:49PM	737-700	Snack
Tue, 11NOV08	CO860 I	ST MAARTEN AN (SXM) 1:40PM	NEWARK EWR (EWR) 5:20PM	737-700	Snack
FARE INFORMATION					
Fare Breakdown					
Airfare:	318.00USD	Form of Payment:			
Per Person Total:	412.15USD	AMERICAN EXPRESS			
eTicket Total:	412.15USD	Last Four Digits			
		9426			
The airfare you paid on this Itinerary totals: 318.00 USD					
The taxes you paid on this Itinerary total: 94.15 USD					

V. Carib News Foundation, as a Private Foundation, Was Prohibited From Paying for Congressman Payne's Travel

104. The Carib News Foundation is identified as the “sponsor” of this conference on at least three forms filed with the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct: (1) the “Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form,”; (2) the “Privately Sponsored Travel: Travel Form,” and; (3) the “Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form.”⁹⁶

105. According to a query of the New York State’s Office of the Secretary of State, Mr. Rodney appears to operate two organizations – the “Carib News, Inc” which operates a newspaper and the “Carib News Charities, Inc” which also may operate under the name “Carib News Foundation.” The OCE has not been able to identify any additional activity, other than the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, in which the latter organization is involved. Furthermore, while “Carib News Charities, Inc” / “Carib News Foundation” is listed with New York’s Office of the Secretary of State as a domestic not-for-profit corporation, it is not listed, as required by law, with the New York State

⁹⁵ Flight Reservation for Representative Donald Payne (Oct. 23, 2008) (Exhibit 24 at 09-4403 0287).

⁹⁶ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Representative Donald Payne (Nov. 19, 2008) (Exhibit 1).

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Charities Bureau. In addition, there is no evidence that the organization has filed a tax return with the IRS, under either name, since 2005.⁹⁷ According to Publication 78 of the IRS, a list of all charities claiming 501(c) status, Carib Charities, Inc is a private foundation.⁹⁸

106. Every organization that qualifies for tax exemption described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code is defined as a private foundation unless the organization falls into one of the categories specifically excluded from the definition under section 509(a).⁹⁹ In effect, the definition divides 501(c)(3) organizations into two classes: private foundations and public charities. Private foundations are generally funded through a single donor, family or corporation and operate through investment income; whereas, public charities are typically funded and operated through diversified support from governmental sources and the general public.

107. There are several restrictions that are placed on private foundations. At issue here is the restriction on "self-dealing" between a disqualified person (the definition of which includes Members of Congress) and a private foundation.¹⁰⁰ The Code defines the act of "self-dealing" to include any direct or indirect agreement to make any payment of money (including reimbursement of expenses) or other property by a private foundation to a government official.¹⁰¹ Although framed as a tax provision, the statute essentially bars certain federal employees and federally elected officials from receiving compensation, including reimbursements for international travel, from a private foundation.¹⁰²

108. As such, it appears that the Carib News Foundation's payment of travel expenses for Representative Payne and his acceptance of payment potentially violated the Internal Revenue Code.

109. The Board infers from the fact that the Standards Committee approved the reimbursement that the Standards Committee is unaware of this restriction. The Board notes, however,

⁹⁷ Letter from IRS to OCE (Apr. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 8 at 09-4403 0102-0115).

⁹⁸ Online Version of Publication 78 (Accessed online on June 5, 2009 at <http://www.irs.gov/app/pub-78/>) (Exhibit 8 at 09-4403 0115.1-0115.2).

⁹⁹ 26 U.S.C. §§ 501 and 509.

¹⁰⁰ 26 U.S.C. §§ 4941 and 4946.

¹⁰¹ 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(1)(F). The Code imposes a tax (currently 10 percent of the amount involved) on the illegal payments, with later penalties (up to \$20,000 per act of self-dealing) for failure to pay back the foundation. The tax is imposed on the disqualified person, including a government official if the official participates in the act of self-dealing knowingly.

¹⁰² The payment or reimbursement of travel expenses for travel solely from one point in the United States to another point in the United States is excepted from the definition of self-dealing provided that the payment or reimbursement does not exceed the actual cost of the transportation involved and provided the amount for all other traveling expenses does not exceed 125 percent of the maximum amount payable under section 5702 of title 5, United States Code, for like travel by employees of the United States. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(2)(G)(vii).

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that its own research revealed that numerous other ethics-related entities in the federal government are aware of this restriction, and have for some time been enforcing it.¹⁰³

110. Congressman Payne told the OCE that he was unaware of any limitations on the ability of private foundations to pay for overseas travel by government officials.¹⁰⁴

111. The Board notes that these facts show failures at multiple points by multiple parties in complying with and enforcing the travel rules. Inaccurate information was provided by the Carib News Foundation to Members and the Standards Committee. Congressman Payne certified inaccurate information to the Standards Committee. The counsel to the former Chair of the Standards Committee intervened in the review process in a way that both frustrated the process in 2007 and set a pattern of obfuscation that continued in 2008. Finally, the Standards Committee appears unaware of limitations on the ability of private foundations to pay for overseas travel by Members.

112. For all these reasons, the Board concludes further review of this matter by the Standards Committee is appropriate.

¹⁰³ Memorandum from Ethics Counsel at the National Institutes of Health to Deputy Ethics Counsels at NIH (Jun. 2, 2000) (Exhibit 23 at 09-4403 0289-291).

¹⁰⁴ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Donald Payne (May 12, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-4403 0031).

EXHIBIT 1

LEGISLATIVE RESOURCE CENTER
2009 NOV 19 PM 3:39
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Original Amendment

U.S. House of Representatives
110th Congress

MEMBER / OFFICER
POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties. You need not disclose government-funded or political travel on this form, or travel that is unrelated to official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report all privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual Financial Disclosure Statement. In accordance with clause 5 of House Rule 25, complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, B-106 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed. The Clerk is to make these forms available to the public as soon as possible after they are received. Obtain the dollar amounts from the sponsor; if exact dollar amounts are unavailable, provide a good faith estimate.

Name of Member or Officer (print or type): Donald Payne

Name of Accompanying Family Member (if any): N/A

Relationship to Member/Officer (check one): Spouse Child Other (specify): _____

Date of Departure and Date of Return: Nov. 6-11, 2008

Dates at personal expense: Nov. 10-11, 2008

Itinerary (Cities of departure - destination - return): Newark, NJ - St. Maarten, Newark, NJ

Sponsor (Who paid for the trip): Carib News Foundation

Describe meetings and events attended (attach additional pages if necessary): See attached.

Attached to this form are ALL of the following (signify "yes" for each item by checking the corresponding box):

- 1. the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form completed by trip sponsor, including all attachments
- 2. the Privately-Sponsored Travel Approval Form completed by the Member or Officer; and
- 3. the Committee on Standards' letter approving participation on this trip.

I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the sponsor's agenda (signify "yes" by checking box):

If not, explain: _____

PAYNE

TRIP EXPENSES:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses
For Member or Officer:	\$410.00	\$405.00	
For accompanying family member:			

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Specific Nature of Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For Member or Officer:		\$175.00
For accompanying family member:		

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER OR OFFICER: Donald M. Payne

DATE: Nov. 19, 2008

Version date 3/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

CLERK'S RESOURCE CENTER
 2008 NOV 19 PM 3:40
 U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Washington, DC 20515

October 16, 2008

The Honorable Donald M. Payne
U.S. House of Representatives
2209 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct hereby approves your proposed trip to St. Maarten, N.A. scheduled for November 6 to 11, 2008 sponsored by the Carib News Foundation. We note that this trip includes 2 days at your personal expense.

You must complete a Member Travel Disclosure Form and file it with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are required to attach a copy of this letter and the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form, including attachments. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$335 from a single source on Schedule VII of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement.

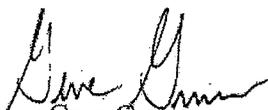
Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act, gifts "of minimal value [currently \$335] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of \$335 received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

However, we would note that since this trip is scheduled to commence after the general election on November 4, 2008 and because officially-connected travel must be related to official duties, it may be questionable whether a Member who was not reelected in the general election should to accept an invitation for a trip that is fact-finding in nature. Arguably, as of that time, the official responsibilities that may justify the acceptance of travel expenses for such a purpose will have come to an end. This consideration generally will not limit the Committee's authority to approve travel of a departing Member to participate substantially in an officially-related event (for example, to give a speech). Please keep this guidance in mind, as you may need to reevaluate your ability to participate in the trip following the election.

The Honorable Donald M. Payne
October 16, 2008
Page 2

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,



Gene Green
Acting Chairman



Doc Hastings
Ranking Republican Member

GG/DH:pgp

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL; TRAVELER FORM
For Members, Officers and Employees
(submit directly to the Committee)

This form should be completed by House Members, officers or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule XXV, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer or employee, together with the completed and signed Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form.

Members, officers and employees seeking approval for travel are urged to submit all forms to the Committee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. A copy of this form will be made available for public inspection. Please type form. Form (and any attachments) may be faxed to the Committee at (202) 225-7392.

1. Name of Member, officer or employee (traveler): Donald M Payne
2. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): Carib News Foundation
3. Travel destination(s): Newark, NJ - St. Maarten, Newark, NJ
4. a. Dates of travel: Nov. 6-11, 2008
b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense? Yes No
If yes, dates at personal expense: Nov. 10-11, 2008
5. a. Name of accompanying family member (if any): -
b. Relationship to Member/Officer: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
6. a. Did the trip sponsor answer "yes" to Question 9(c) on the Trip Sponsor form (i.e., the travel is being sponsored by an entity that employs a lobbyist)? Yes No
b. If yes, check one of the following:
(1) Approval for one-night's lodging and meals is being requested: or
(2) Approval for two-nights' lodging and meals is being requested:
If "(2)" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____
7. Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments (indicate that form is attached by checking box):

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): BASED ON COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE WHICH IMPACTS US/CARIBBEAN RELATIONS ON WHICH THE MEMBER SERVES,
6. Dates of travel: NOVEMBER 6-9, 2008
7. Cities of departure - destination - return: VARIES - DEPENDING ON MEMBER
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
 - a. One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered:
 If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

- 11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
- 12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: _____
 CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (* SEE ATTACHED)

- 13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: _____
 THE INTEREST OF CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION IS TO PROMOTE, INFORM, TRADE AND
 ESTABLISHMENT OF MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE U.S AND THE CARIBBEAN

- 14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted: _____
 REGULAR SCHEDULED AIR SERVICE, ECONOMY CLASS

- 15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):
- 16. I represent that either (check one of the following):
 - a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: *or*
 - b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:
 If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____

- 17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: SEE ATTACHED

- 18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: SONESTA MAHO BEACH RESORT 800-766-3782
- 19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$110.00

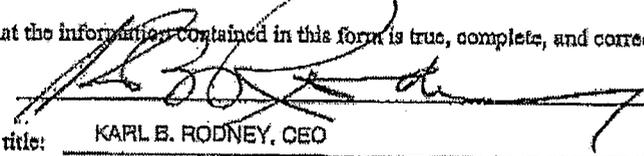
- 20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: HAS APPROPRIATE MEETING ROOMS

21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	410	260	145
For each accompanying family member	410	0	145

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$150 \$ 25	Conference Registration Local transportation
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security coats, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name and title: KARL E. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

Address: 7 WEST 38th STREET, 8th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

Telephone number: (212) 944-1991

Fax number: (212) 944-2089

Email Address: CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
 U.S. House of Representatives
 HT-2, The Capitol
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)
 (202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INVITED TO THE
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS
CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 6-9, 2008, ST. MAARTEN, N.A.

Congresswoman Diane E. Watson
Congressman David Scott
Congressman James Clyburn
Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez
Congressman Charles Rangel
Congressman Donald Payne
Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
Congressman Edolphus Towns
Congressman G. K. Butterfield
X Congressman Gregory Meeks
Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.
Congressman Keith Ellison
Congressman Kendrick Meek
Congresswoman Maxine Waters
Congressman Melvin Watt
Congressman Robert Scott
Congressman William Lacy Clay
Congresswoman Barbara Lee
Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
Congresswoman Corrine Brown
Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
Congressman Danny Davis
Congressman Bennie Thompson
Congresswoman Laura Richardson

July 2008



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1999; Fax: (212) 944-2089
Email: info@caribnewsconference.com

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Item #17

A Caribbean country whose proximity to other Caribbean Countries makes it conveniently located for delegates from the other Caribbean countries to attend.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

Working Copy

**13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
St. Maarten, N.A.**

**THEME: A REGION IN TRANSITION - STRATEGY FOR
CHANGE - BUILDING ALLIANCES**

Thursday, November 6, 2008

12:00noon- 6:00pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -

5:00 - 6:30 - TOWN HALL FORUM - HEALTH
**Innovative Solutions for Life styles
Diseases- a Collaborative Approach - Diabetes,
Hypertension, Obesity, Oral Health**

**Speakers - Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister, St. Kitts and Nevis
Mrs. Karen Boykin-Towns
Hon Diane Watson, Member of US Congress
Health Commissioner, St. Maarten
Hon. Jesse Jackson Jr., Member of US Congress**

6:30- 7:30pm - OPENING RECEPTION

Venue: - POOLSIDE

Theme: - A REGION IN TRANSITION -

**Speakers: - Faye A. Rodney
Hon. Roy Marlin - Commissioner for Tourism & Finance - St
Maarten.
Hon. Yvette Clarke, Member of Congress**

MC: - **Sabrina Hosang - Royal Caribbean Bakery**

7:30 - 9:30 pm - **OPENING DINNER**

Venue: - **Main Ballroom**

Theme: - **STRATEGY FOR CHANGE**

Greetings:

Speakers : - **Dame Billie Miller**

Hon. Donald Payne, Member US Congress

Hon. Nick Perry, New York State Assembly

Hon. G.K. Butterfield, Member of Congress

10:00pm - 1:00am: - **HOSPITALITY AREA**

Friday, November 7, 2008

8:00am - 8:45am - **(BREAKFAST)**

9:00am - 6:00pm	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
------------------------	--------------------------------

9:00am - 10:15am - **OPENING CEREMONIES**

Venue: - **Main Ballroom**

Theme: - **BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR PROGRESS**

Invocation: - **Rev. Susan Johnson=Cook**

Anthems: - **St. Maarten**
Lift Every Voice

Remarks: - **Eric Eve**
Karen Boykin-Towns
Marie Long
Ed Goldberg
Patrick Gaston
Hazel Dukes

Speakers: - **Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick – Member**
US Congress
Hon. Melvin Watt, Member of US Congress
Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader
of Government, St.Maarten

Keynote Speaker - **Hon. Charles Rangel –Member US Congress**

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONIES

10:15am – 10:30am - **COFFEE BREAK -**

10:30am -11:45am - **PRESENTATION**

Theme: " Health – an Economic development Strategy
For the Region"

Speakers: - Hon. Donna Christensen, Member US Congress
Hon. Barbara Lee, Member US Congress
Dr. Carl Kenel-Pierre, Preferred Health Partners
Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister St.Kitts/Nevis
Hon. Yvonne Graham

10:30 – 11.45 - **PRESENTATION**

Theme - "Access to Capital – Creative and unique
Financial packages "

Speakers - Michele Chow Tai, HSBC Bank
Hon. Adolfo Carrion, Bronx Borough President
William Lacy Clay, Member of US Congress
Hon. Compton Bourne, President, CDB
Commissioner of Finance, St. Maarten
Hon. Keith Ellison, Member US Congress

12:00noon – 1:15pm - **PRESENTATION**

Theme: - **TRAVEL & TOURISM –**
Need for a Competitive Transportation Network
Emerging Tourism Market
Health Tourism

- Greeting:** - Dale Morris
- Speakers:** - Hon. Gregory Meeks, Member of US Congress
 Hon. Allan Chastanet, Minister of Tourism, St. Lucia
 Hon. Roy Marlin, Commissioner of Tourism,
 St. Maarten
 Hon. Bennie Thompson, Member of US Congress

12:00noon -1:15pm

PRESENTATION

- Theme** - Technological Innovation – A Path to Economic
 Development
- Moderator** - Colin Ward
- Speakers** Hon. Edolphus Towns, Member of US Congress
 Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson, Member US Congress
 Commissioner of Technology, St. Maarten

1:30pm – 2:30pm

- **LUNCHEON**

- Venue:** - Main Ballroom
- Theme:** - **BUILDING A WINNING STRATEGY - PARTNERSHIPS
 THAT WORK**
- Speakers:** - Hon. Nick Perry, NYS Assembly
 Eric Eve
 Hon. Jesse Jackson, Member US Congress
- Keynote Speaker** - Hon. David Paterson, Governor New York State

3:00pm - 4:00pm

Round Table #1

- **NEXT GENERATION -**

Business Retention and Expansion

Speakers

- **Sabrina HoSang**

Lita Balram

Karlisa Rodney

Hon. Yvette Clarke, Member of US Congress

Hon. Kendrick Meek, Member of US Congress

Round Table #2 -

- **LOCAL BUSINESS INITIATIVES -**

Opportunities with US Companies

Speakers :

- **Ed Goldberg**

Eric Eve

Cheryl Monroe

Albert Brown

Member of Congress

Round Table #3

- **HEALTH -**

QUALITY HEALTH CARE

HIV/AIDS Programs in the Region

4:30pm - 6:00pm

- **TOWN HALL FORUM - EDUCATION**

Speakers: - **Dr. Edison O. Jackson**
Dr. Marcia Keizs
Patrick Gaston
Hon. Sarah Wescot-Williams, Commissioner of Education, St. Maarten
Hon. Danny Davis, Member of US Congress
Professor Rex Nettleford, UWI

Venue:

6.30:00pm - 7:30pm - HOST COUNTRY EVENING

Venue:

Theme

MC:

Speakers:

CULTURAL PRESENTATION

7:30 - 8:00 pm:

8:00pm - 10:30.p.m.

Venue :

Theme

Speakers:

Hon. David Scott, Member of US Congress

10:00pm - 1:00am

HOSPITALITY AREA

Venue:

Saturday, November 8, 2008

8:00am – 10:00am

- **WOMEN'S BREAKFAST**
WOMEN OF INFLUENCE AND POWER

Venue:

- **Main Ballroom**

Moderator

- **Marilyn Johnson**

Speakers:

- **Hon. Maxine Waters, Member US Congress**
Hon. Sheila Jackson-Lee, Member US Congress
Hon. Barbara Lee, Member US Congress
Brenda Scott
Hon. Sarah Wescot-Williams
Rev. Dr. Susan Johnson-Cook

10.15am – 11:45am

- **PRESENTATION – EDUCATION**

A Collaboration with US Institution *Thinkfinity*
UWI/Medgar Evers College Initiatives

Speakers:

Dr. Edison Jackson
Patrick Gaston
Hon. Yvette Clarke, Member US Congress
Hon. Danny Davis, Member of Congress

10:15am - 11:45am - PRESENTATION - AGRICULTURE
A New Emphasis in the Region - Can it Survive Globalization.

Chair & Greetings:

Speakers: **Hon. David Scott, Member US Congress**
 Hon. Gregory Meeks, Member US Congress

11:00am - 1:00pm **All Members of Congress are requested to attend**
Closed Door Meeting with Prime Ministers,
Ministers of Government of the Caribbean,
Commissioners, to review US/Caribbean Relations

12:00noon - 1:15pm - PRESENTATION - CREATIVE FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS
TRADE & INVESTMENT
Retooling for Growth
Community Capitalism

Speakers: **- Hon. Maxine Waters, Member US Congress**

Panelists:

12:00 noon - 1:15pm - PRESENTATION
Theme **Hemispheric Security - Ports/Airports -**
 Crime - Drugs - Disaster

Speakers

- **Hon. Bennie Thompson, Member of US Congress**
- Theo Heyliger – Commissioner of Ports, St. Maarten**
- Hon. Yvette Clarke – Member US Congress**
- Hon. Lance Ogiste, Brooklyn District Attorney**
- Dr. Basil Wilson**
- Hon. Keith Ellison, Member of US Congress**

1:30pm – 2:30 pm

LUNCHEON

Theme:

CARIBBEAN – A SOLID INVESTMENT

Speakers

- **Hon. Charles Ranel, Member of US Congress**
- Hon. William Thompson, NYC Comptroller**
- Dr. Compton Bourne, President CDB**
- Dr Enrique Riggs**
- Javier Evans**

Round Table #1

- **EDUCATION**

Speakers

- **Hon. Danny Davis, Member of US Congress**
- Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson, Member US Congress**

Round Table#2: - **IMMIGRATION**
Hon. Sheila Jackson-Lee, Member of US Congress
Dr. Marco Mason

Round Table#3: - **HAITI - HOPE II - Diaspora Initiatives**
Hon. Charles Rangel, Member of US Congress
Hon. Kendrick Meek, Member of US Congress

Round Table# 4 - **MICRO FINANCING - CONFERENCE GENERATED**
Laura Blackburne
Hon. Keith Ellison, Member of US Congress
Lucille McEwen
Michael Flanigan

4:30 pm - 6:00pm - **TOWN HALL FORUM - TECHNOLOGY**

Venue:

Speakers - **Marie Long**
~~**Marilyn Johnson**~~
Colin Ward
Al Brown

Hon. Corrine Brown, Member of Congress

Hon. James Clyburn, Member of Congress

Commissioner on Technology

6:30 - 7.30pm - GALA RECEPTION

Speakers - Hon. James Clyburn, Member of US. Congress

7.30pm - 10:00pm - GALA DINNER & AWARDS PRESENTATION

Speaker - Hon. Charles Rangel, Member of US Congress

Hon. Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Government Business

AWARDS PRESENTATION

ENTERTAINMENT

10:30pm - 1:00am - HOSPITALITY AREA

Venue:

Sunday, November 9, 2008

8:30 am - 10:00am - POWER BREAKFAST

Theme: - ***SPIRITUALITY - THE BASICS IN BUSINESS***

Speakers - **Rev. Susan Johnson Cook**

Ed Goldberg

Lowell Hawthorne

Selection: - **Local Choir**

September 30, 2008

CARIBBEAN MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

REGISTER AGENDA ABOUT THE CONFERENCE HOTEL FAQ PARTICIPANTS PRESS CONTACT

The 2008 Program Agenda

[View 2007 Agenda]

Theme : A Region In Transition - Strategy For Change - Building Alliances

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 6TH 2008

13TH ANNUAL CARIBBEAN MULTI NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Time - 12:00 Noon to 6:00 PM

TOWN HALL FORUM - HEALTH

Time - 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM

- Healthy Living - 'The Worldwide Challenge'
- Innovative Solutions For Life Styles
- Diseases - A Collaborative Approach - Diabetes, Hypertension, Obesity, Oral Health

Venue - Royal Islander

Moderator - Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

Speakers - Mrs. Karen Boykin-Towns, Congress Member Dr. Donna Christian Christensen, Commissioner Maria Buncamper Molanus, Health Commissioner, St Maarten, Dr. John Palmer, Harlem Hospital Center Dr. Jay Cowart, National Medical Association, Dr. Leon Merrick - Merrick's Dental Studio, First Lady Michelle Palge Paterson, Health Advocate

MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE OPENING RECEPTION

Time - 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM

Venue - Upper Pool

Theme - A Region In Transition

MC - Sabrina Hosang - Royal Caribbean Bakery

Speakers - Faye A. Rodney, Hon. Roy Marlin - Commissioner For Tourism & Finance Of St Maarten

MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE OPENING DINNER

Time - 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM

Venue - The Maho Room

Theme - A Strategy For Change

Greeting - Karen Boykin Towns
Speakers - Dr. Denzil Douglas, Dr. Carl Kenel Pierre, Commissioner Maria Buncamper Molanus, Health Commissioner of St Maarten, Dr Dexter McKenzie

LUNCHEON

Time - 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM

Venue - Main Ballroom

Theme - Building A Winning Strategy - Partnerships That Works

Moderator - Hon. Nick Perry, NYS Assembly

Speaker - Eric Eve * Keynote Speaker - Hon. David Paterson, Governor New York State

ROUND TABLE ONE - EDUCATION - THINKFINITY PRESENTATION & DEMONSTRATION

Time - 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Venue - Royal Islander A

MC - Dr. Patricia Hazlewood

Speakers - Patrick Gaston & Albert Browne

ROUND TABLE TWO - LOCAL BUSINESS INITIATIVES

Time - 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Venue - Royal Islander B

Speaker - Ed Goldberg, Eric Eve, Albert Browne

TOWN HALL FORUM - EDUCATION SHARING WORKING SOLUTIONS

Time - 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM

Venue - Royal Islander A

Greetings - Michael Fianigan

Moderator - Dr. Marcella Maxwell

Speakers - Hon David M. Dinkins (Former Mayor, NYC), Dr. Edison O. Jackson, Dr. Marcia Keizs, Professor Rex Nettleford, UWI and ~~William Payne Assemblyman NJ~~

HOST COUNTRY EVENING - CULTURAL PRESENTATION

Time - 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM.

HOSPITALITY AREA

Time - 10:00 PM to 1:00 AM

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 8 2008

BREAKFAST - OCEAN TERRACE

Time - 7:45 AM to 8:15 AM

PRESENTATION - WOMEN OF INFLUENCE AND POWER

Time - 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM

Venue - Maho Beach

Greeting & Opening Remarks - Brenda Scott

Attorney Stanford Rubenstein, NYC Councilmember Dr. Kendall Stewart

ROUND TABLE TWO - HAITI BOLD INITIATIVES - THE DIASPORA - CBC & CARICOM
Venue - Royal Islander B

Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham

Speakers - Hon. Charles Rangel, Hon. Gregory Meeks, Hon. Ralph Gonsalves, Dr. Lesly Kernisant

TOWN HALL FORUM - TECHNOLOGY
Venue - Royal Islander A

Moderator - Colin Ward
Greeting & Opening - Marie Long

Speakers - Congressman Edolphus Towns, Albert Browne, Commissioner of Technology,
Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson

GALA RECEPTION
Time - 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM

Speaker - Susan Taylor

GALA DINNER & AWARDS PRESENTATION
Time - 7:30 PM to 10:00 PM

Speakers - Dr. Harry Belafonte, Hon. Sarah Wescot Williams, Leader of Government Business

HOSPITALITY AREA
Time - 10:30 PM to 1:00 AM
Venue - Hotel Conference Room

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 9TH 2008

POWER BREAKFAST - SPIRITUALITY THE BASICS IN BUSINESS
Time - 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM

Greeting - Lowell Hawthorne
Speakers - Ed Goldberg Local Minister

Selection - Local Choir

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POWERED BY JURAWAN TECHNOLOGY

EXHIBIT 2

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative Donald Payne
Review #: 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222; 09-2567
Date: May 12, 2009
Location: 2310 Rayburn HOB, Washington, D.C.
Participants: Leo Wise
Beth Horton

Summary: Representative Donald Payne attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference. We requested an interview with Representative Payne he consented. Representative Payne was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and he signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. Representative Payne made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. He attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008.
2. The conference was held in St. Maarten.
3. He made the decision to attend the conference. He co-chairs the Caucus so it made sense for him to attend.
4. He attended the conference the prior year.
5. He was invited to attend the conference by the Carib News Foundation.
6. He knows Faye and Karl Rodney and knows that they are involved with Carib News. He assumed they also ran the Foundation.

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

7. He met the Rodneys at the first conference that he attended.
8. He does not otherwise interact with the Rodneys. They are an older couple.
9. He does not see the Carib News often, it is primarily available in Brooklyn and the Bronx. It is a well respected paper that is geared towards the Caribbean.
10. He attended the conference from Wednesday through Sunday and extended his stay on his own for an additional two days. He departed on Tuesday.
11. He stayed at the Royal Sonesta in a standard room during his entire stay. He did not change rooms.
12. He did not recall the cost of the room, it would have been the same as the other days. He confirmed the charge on his American Express was for the conference stay.
13. He paid for the expenses for the extra two days with his personal American Express. He paid for meals separately.
14. Meals at the conference were included in the conference cost.
15. He did not see any figures for the registration fee or for the cost of meals. He stated that the pre-travel form should have the information.
16. He does not handle the paperwork for his travel. He did not review the post travel report, his staff handles all aspects of travel.
17. He thought the signature on the post travel report was his.
18. Darlene can sign for him but he usually does so himself.
19. He made remarks during the first night of the conference.
20. He recalled welcoming the participants to the conference and commending the sponsors, Carib News, for their efforts and objectives on the 3rd Border Initiative.
21. He thought that he commended the corporations for sponsoring the Foundation.
22. He recalled that Sears, Pfizer, and Macy's were sponsors.
23. He did not recall IBM.
24. He did not recall the ribbon cutting.

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

25. He assumed Representative Kilpatrick spoke at the conference.
26. He assumed the corporate sponsors were general participants.
27. He relied on the Standards Committee approval and did not feel there was any issue after he received approval.
28. He was not aware of any restrictions on private foundation's ability to provide travel.
29. He has traveled with Aspen and on other trips so is familiar with travel rules.
30. He recalled that the government officials discussed deportation issues, healthcare, and education issues at the ministers meeting; otherwise, he was not aware of any participation by the government of St. Maarten in the organization of the conference.
31. He had several discussions with government ministers on various issues during the conference.
32. His brother also attended the conference.
33. He was surprised that there was an issue with the trip since he had received approval from the Standards Committee prior to attending the conference.

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

Exhibit 3

TRANSCRIPT OF AUDIO FILE:

11-7 AM SESSION - FIRST 30 MIN

Thank you for working with Accentance for your transcription needs. The text below represents a professional transcriptionist's understanding of the words spoken. No guarantee of complete accuracy is expressed or implied, particularly regarding spellings of names and other unfamiliar or hard-to-hear words and phrases. "(ph)" or "(sp?)" indicate phonetics or best guesses. To verify important quotes, we recommend listening to the corresponding audio. Timestamps throughout the transcript facilitate locating the desired quote, using software such as Windows Media or QuickTime players.

BEGIN TRANSCRIPT:

KARL RODNEY: ...Mike Flanigan how through the year his division has been supportive of the Mission and the Conference. And so we want to say thanks to Citi. You'll be hearing from Mike later but it's a great team to have working and great partners. We have Pfizer and a big supporter of (inaudible) aspect. Karen Boykin-Towns is not here, she has been able to in the past eight years and there's a death in her family and so she's not here to begin. Through the years work had done in the Caribbean circle in the United States and then a special touch to our work that can be done not only on the delivery of health care but overall awareness. [0:01:00.4]

And over from Macy's and its very fine team has been innovative in outreach to various locations we've gone to, finding new vendors, developing new contacts and really helping to make the conference a success by engagement of our local participants. So Ed and Brenda are tremendous supporters and we're so delighted that they're here with us.

IBM and Marilyn Johnson, Marilyn is Vice-President of Market Development, responsible for strategic marketing for Black, Asian and Hispanic, Native American and Women. Marilyn's a dynamic partner and you'll be hearing from Marilyn also. You should be alerted that between Brenda and Marilyn tomorrow is Women's sessions is going to be something to talk about. [0:02:09.5]

Marie Long is here from ATT but ATT has supported the Conference all 13 years. We started with them. They made sure that the Vision, the Mission of the Conference is supported through the many years.

We have with us Mr. Pat Gaston. Mr. Gaston is the President of Verizon Foundation, one of the largest private foundations in the United States. And Mr. Gaston has made his mark in moving that foundation to be a force in education in the United States. We are delighted he is here to be with us and to introduce a wonderful program that has been very effective in the United States (inaudible) to see if there is potential here in the Caribbean. So, Patrick, we are delighted you are here and we look forward to your presentation. [0:03:14.9]

Preferred Health and a wonderful group of doctors, Dr. Valdez, Dr. Carl Kenel-Pierre, Dr. Kernisant, a group of doctors who have a network of centers through the United States but they also see and want to have that expanded to the Caribbean and also to bring a new kind of emphasis with respect to health tourism to the Caribbean and so they're here today also.

Dale Morris from American. American has been a partner with us for several years. Dale is expected to come in later on today but we want to acknowledge American and want to say "thanks".

Lloyd Williams from the Harlem Chamber of Commerce enough of his members are around and Lloyd has been supportive of this Conference from its inception and the Chamber has always been here with us and so we want to say "thanks" to Lloyd. [0:04:20.9]

Medgar Evers College under the dynamic leadership of President Edison O. Jackson has not only brought to the Caribbean a new vision of education, a new initiative with respect to men and empowerment but also the team that you see moving around they're from Medgar through the instrumentality of President Jackson working with us to document the Conference. It will be available too for a widespread distribution afterwards. So Medgar has been a true partner in making this Conference and this Mission work. [0:05:07.0]

Turner Construction, we have had a working relationship with Rev. Hilton Smith, he has attended several conferences and now he's with his colleague John Pierce to be a partner in the Mission of the Conference.

And, of course, the government of St. Maarten's under the dynamic leadership of leader Sarah Westcott-Williams and her dynamic team. We have always been working with - we always work with the leader and her dynamic group and we are just delighted at her own creative vision, her own determination and dynamic way of dealing with the Mission and dealing with the situation at hand. And we met with Commissioner Westcott-Williams and her team and she had a vision to suggest the theme of the Conference, time of transition, stretching for change and building the land session. So it was with that kind of background that we're here and to St. Maarten's we say, "Thank you very, very much." [0:06:31.4]

We have so many great partners that we shall hear from throughout the morning. We have through the Conventional Black Caucus and their members a set of agendas that have been accomplished, policies that have been achieved and programs that have been enhanced. And through the years they have been very effective when they have attended the Conferences our own (inaudible).

It was here at St. Maarten's six years ago that a group of hoteliers and vendors approached the members of our caucus to suggest that the Caribbean had been treated unfairly with respect to the duty-free allowance going into the United States. And it was within six months that it was changed through the effort of the members of the Black Caucus and so the Caribbean is better. And the Caribbean has benefited through millions of dollars of duty-free items that you know come through to the Caribbean.

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It was also here in St. Maarten's that the issue of tax exemption for conferences held in the Caribbean was again brought to the attention of the members of the Congressional Black Caucus and again that was achieved within a year. [0:08:08.2]

And so we've seen that kind of work constantly throw it's really the conference. So we can try to serve real achievement in fact in this room there is a couple that came from Denver to Barbados for their first Conference and they have built a region wide distribution for ice cream and fast food. And this has grown considerably.

It was also through the Conference that a small technology company with the value of \$2 million came, got a contract and that company in two years became a \$12 million company. And we've seen that kind of connection throughout the Conference. We could point to Barbados where technology was enhanced with respect to ATT work with the local Barbadian telecommunication company. St. Croix the fiber optics center, Grenada an oil refinery, all coming up with the expertise of the Conference to the (inaudible). [0:09:30.7]

And so the Mission is there to continue, the Mission is there to enhance, the Mission is there for us to make it work particularly now when we see the change has come and we can now come together to pad the agenda and to look forward to this kind of strategy for change. And so we want to welcome you. We promise that our sessions are going to be interesting. We have some of the best speakers that you can find on the various topics. We're going to see more when we get together the support we can bring to each other. The support we can provide with respect to the met work and certainly when we go back in the Caribbean we can really see results. We can come together as a people. You've been a great Conference. Thanks so much for being here. God bless. [0:10:28.4]

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you Mr. Rodney and we also thank you Mrs. Rodney as well. With interest we're here on the wave of the man who campaigned about change and on this transition to change and also strategic alliances. And we hope that will happen for you while you're here. Mr. Vide mentioned all of the sponsors who were with us and the partners who helped to make this happen and we're going to hear from three of them at this time at this quarter, Michael Flanigan from Citibank (Citi) and Ed Goldberg, Senior Vice-President at Macy's and Community for the Relations, and Patrick Gaston the President of the Verizon Foundation. In that order we will receive them this morning as they come, please. (clapping) [0:11:15.6]

MICHAEL FLANIGAN: Good morning.

ALL: Good morning.

MICHAEL FLANIGAN: It's really a pleasure to be here. As you heard before, Eric is on his way so I have the great privilege and honor of putting in for Eric. But first just wanted to say "thank you" and again welcome to the 13th Annual Caribbean Business Conference. This year was significant for Citi. For the first time we are the lead sponsor of this premier event. But I would be remiss in not thanking the organizers and our hosts here at St. Maarten so to the

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government, to the Commissioner Sarah Westcott-Williams, Governor Franklin Richards and Commissioner Roy Marlin and all the other elected officials here in St. Maarten and elected Congress members, appointed officials from the United States it's a pleasure to be here with you. [0:12:15.6]

We also of course have to thank the Rodney's as being 13 years in ensuring that this vision is carried out and delivered all across the Caribbean and I don't call to talk about some successes but I think one of the most important success that I think that I've experienced in coming to the Conference for the last six or seven years is just reunited with his great family. It's all about developing our communities. About we're all about the same thing, I think. We're all on the same page. We're all about the same agenda. And we're all about making sure that we absolutely care about each other, yourself but we care about the broader community. So it's always a pleasure to be here. I get re-energized every time I come. And so it's - I look forward to it - so it's one conference that I will never miss.

This Conference is an important gallery that makes a tangible contribution to dialog on the issues of important to communities. From recognizing the untapped wealth for underserved communities to building property alliances so that together we can build healthy, robust, organic economies. Today and tomorrow and even into Sunday are very important to that conversation at least to building a winning strategy to succeed in these turbulent economic times. I trust that we will all take full advantage of the great minds and the leaders that we are privileged to spend time with. I know my Citi bank black (inaudible) are ready. Thank you so much for having us here at Conference. (clapping) [0:13:58.2]

ED GOLDBERG: Good morning everyone.

ALL: Good morning.

ED GOLDBERG: As Mike said it's really a pleasure to be back with family today. We look forward to this Conference very year. Obviously, we hope that there will be many, many more over the years to come. I learned something from David Dinkins several years ago when you have a whole list of dignitaries in the house, the best thing to say is, "Present, protocol observed." So, Mr. Mayor, thank you for those kind words. (laughter)

Now a week and a half ago, Macy's celebrated its 150th anniversary. (clapping) When you think about anniversaries of companies today to believe that somebody could be around in the retail industry in particular for 150 years is quite an amazing feat. I'm sure that when R. H. Macy opened his store in lower Manhattan on 14th Street on October 28, 1858, he did not have the vision that the company some day; number one would last for 150 years; or that it would employ 225,000 people; or that they would do \$27 billion a year in business; or for being in 46 of our 50 states; and also the opportunity of having a business in 64 or 65 major markets in the United States. [0:15:30.9]

But today I'm hear to talk more about the Caribbean contract. The fact that we have been supportive of Carolyn Fay and this particular venture for the number of years but more importantly the fact that we come here to look for that spark that will ignite an opportunity to

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find that next Martha Stewart; that next design; or that new product that's going to sell in our stores such as we've done with the Rwandan peace baskets and products like that. And I think it is really why our Mission is so important, it's not just a question of change, not just a question of transition but it's building those ties and looking for those opportunities. That I think will bring us closer together. [0:16:15.9]

There's no question that we all face difficult times but I believe that the Caribbean is our backdoor and the bottom line in opening for us for expansion. No, I don't think we can build 250,000 sq. ft. mall stores but Macy's has to learn in transition how do we conduct business in the Caribbean communities. And I think we're going to find that way and obviously this particular convention is one of those opportunities to do so.

You all know Brenda Scott, my wife, (laughter), Judy's back in the room sleeping so I can say that. But Brenda and I have been together for more than 20 years. We have obviously been very much involved in our communities where we do business and we still believe we have a long way to go. But our mission is being supported by a great Chairman, Terry Lundgren, and the people of Macy's, so obviously we look forward to developing these bridges and developing the relationships. And I hope that in the not too distant future, we will be talking about a Macy's store here in the Caribbean. So enjoy your convention. I hope I'll get a chance to talk to each and every one of you as the time goes by over the next couple of days. And again, thank you so much, Carolyn Fay for the great work that you do. (clapping) [0:17:32.9]

PATRICK GASTON: Good morning everyone.

ALL: Good morning.

PATRICK GASTON: Thank you, Karl, for the wonderful introduction. Thank you, Michael and Ed for these great remarks. I extend welcome from our CEO, Ivan Seidenberg, and our 225,000 employees, many of whom are from the Caribbean mason including me. I want to acknowledge my colleagues and members of the public sector, members of the community, and I also, I guess, want to respect present protocol. Okay, but I have to single out a couple people, right? So thank you to the leader of government Sarah Westcott-Williams for hosting us today and the great people of St. Maarten. It's a delight to be back here. This is my eighth time in St. Maarten and I may stay. (laughter) It's wonderful. I want to acknowledge Karl Rodney for his exceptional ability to bring people together to recognize the collaborations that are important for business development. He does so with the grace that I admire and it's the first time I've had the chance to be here with you, Karl. and it's an honor to be here and a privilege so thank you for inviting me. [0:19:06.0]

I want you all to recognize Rex Nettleford, I don't know if he's in the audience still. But Rex and I have known each other for about nine years when I first joined the Foundation of the University of West Indies Board of Directors. And one of the things that attracted me to the University in addition to Karl, of course, was that Rex was the kind of leader that reflected a lot of commitment and enthusiasm about education; something that I care deeply about. And over the years has provided me with his counsel and friendship and I thank you for that, Rex. (clapping)

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You know. Verizon does not have a retail presence in the Caribbean and I hope some day we will. But we do provide global Internet networks that help to provide a lot of communications that you might experience here. So I think we're in the game and we realize the value of technology to ensure that folks have access to incubation and education. In my case at the Verizon Foundation, Karl mentioned that I head up the Verizon Foundation and our emphasis is on education. And what we're trying to do is deliver resources to teachers in the classroom that need it really badly. So we're developing contact and we're taking with our partners, we're taking that contact and making it available through our technology platforms so during the course of today in the discussions that we'll have, we'll talk about that resource. Which, by the way, is offered free of charge to teachers around this country and now around the globe, so we want to make sure that we present this resource as another thing that this community can use and use it in a way that's free. So I'm looking forward to this dialogue and am excited about this Conference and I thank you very much, Karl, for inviting us to hear quality. [0:21:06.2] (clapping)

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you very much. I loved language in school. I remember ottomottopea and phizz and those words and oxymoron, best of times, worst of times, homonyms, the words that sounded alike with different meanings but synonyms when you said the word you could understand what it meant. It was synonymous with something. So when we say the words, "front line", "civic leader", "activist", "Miss NAACP", "world leader". "you don't want to mess with her", you know it is synonymous with Hazel Dukes and we want to hear from her, our God, mother, our community, don't you think I'm right? (clapping) Miss NAACP, Miss Leader, our dignitary, let us receive this morning, the Honorable Hazel Dukes of New York City. Are there any New Yorkers in the house? (clapping) Let's get a little noise over here. All right.

HAZEL DUKES: Good morning.

ALL: Good morning.

HAZEL DUKES: This is my 12th Conference. Missed only one because I had a broken ankle and it was just like four weeks before the Conference, not even, be on the cast. But let me say to Fay and Karl that they have been the glue without the (inaudible). They are for us 24-7. Not only just in New York City but the Islands we have attempted. The NAACP will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in New York City where it was founded July 14 through July 17. Medgar Evers, the college, the university, the (inaudible) of the city of New York, when George Blackburn and I sit and watch TV and we hear all people go over their history, people forgot that it would not have been possible if it was not for those names, Medgar names known or so many others in Alabama for Rosie, decided to sit. So Maude could stand. Maude could not have stood if Rosie hadn't of sat. Rosie was the Secretary of the NAACP, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The Colored People come in all colors, when you make your beautiful salad you just don't want all greenery in it. Even with your omelet this morning you could have a mixture, of beautiful flowers I have to have all colors. And so for a hundred years this old ship resigned, been around. Lord, I was reminiscing last night Congresspersons who we went to the Congressional Black Caucus there was only six. We used to be at the Hilton Hotel. And we held court. When we started in Albany there was no black and Puerto Rican caucus, there was the

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now, the next mayor for the city of New York, Bill Thompson's father, who was the regional director for the NAACP who went on to be now retired. [0:24:54.4]

It would not have been 106 mayor of New York City of Percy's son, a former President of the New York City branch of the NAACP, Balford Calison (sp), Secretary of State and now the government of the state of New York has his first job at the NAACP. So I want us to learn history so we can have our brothers and sisters in (inaudible) and those who are coming to the shore of these United States to understand the kitchen of our connectiveness to (inaudible). How soon you could forget the history that those from the Caribbean have played to make America what she is today. [0:25:44.8]

And so I join with Karl and Fay every year I trek here because they joined with me in New York City trying to break the (inaudible) of the two communities because Rolly Johnson said this morning, Cook said this morning, Johnson Cook said this morning, "When we join hands together. when we come and talk about the multi national conference, we're global now, we can't think we just in Brooklyn, we just can't think we in the Bronx, we just can't think we in Manhattan and in Queens and Staten Island. We are all over this country. And when we saw the crowd of people, black and white, Jew and Gentile, Muslin, Asians, all across this country who came out for Obama. it is a change in America. And then we African-Americans and the Caribbean's have to absolutely solidify our tie. Because if America is to be what she was born to be, it would be that so on behalf of our new President Ben Judds who I'll promise will be here next year, 35-year-old Rhodes scholar. ingratiating young brother who is so excited where we are going. And my sisters in the Congressional Black Caucus and my brothers, we going to get it together. As our Congresswoman told us yesterday. "We're tired of talking about it. It's (audible) we are sick and tired of being the sick and tired." And so when we leave here, we will be better off because we came together to make new friendships, to re-energize and I would say to Karl and to Fay, our sincere gratitude to you for bringing us together as a family each year. Some of us even don't have enough time to sit. That's why Laura convinced me to come a day early. Even if I don't know what's happening with my 401K. (laughter) I'm nervous, Mr. Comptroller man. I don't know about vacation but we thought it not right not to come here and be with our family. Thank you so much. [0:28:13.4] (clapping)

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: We thank you so, so much. He began his second term in January 2006 as the 42nd Comptroller of the City of New York. He's come from a distinguished parenthood, a famous judge and a mother as a public school teacher, but he has distinguished his own path. And he has become a wonderful Comptroller of New York City and he has responsibility for all the city's pension funds. He's just a good brother. He's here with us today, hope to be the next mayor of the city of New York. Let's put our hands together for William C. Thompson, Jr., the Comptroller of a great city of New York, New York. All right?

WILLIAM THOMPSON: Thank you Reverend for that very wonderful introduction and it's good to see you here as our Master, or Mistress of Ceremonies, this morning. And I go ahead and make a mistake. I should have had the Mayor open up for me because he always does it correctly. But to our leader of government, Commissioner Westcott-Williams, to the members of government here in St. Maarten, my colleagues in government all over the United States, friends, good morning.

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ALL: Good morning.

WILLIAM THOMPSON: It is definitely a pleasure to be back again even though following Hazel to the microphone is always an indubitable thing to do. [0:30:01.1]

END PART 1

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TRANSCRIPT OF AUDIO FILE:

11-7AMSESSION - 30 THRU 75 MIN

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BEGIN TRANSCRIPT:

(Part 2 - beginning at 30:00 through 1:15)

WILLIAM C. THOMPSON, JR.: - It's good to be back again and let me first start out by thanking, and I always term them as I did last year and I have continued to do it over a period of time, termed them the "dynamic duo," Faye and Karl Rodney. [applause at 0:30:16.7] They happen to be, when it comes to vision - and that's exactly 13 years ago when putting this conference together, they had a vision. It is something that they have never taken a step back from. They continue to move forward. they continue to bring us together. And while we have the opportunity to meet, to have conferences in some wonderful places, just fabulous environments and that is the truth, but they work us, okay. Karl and Faye let us understand that we may meet in a wonderful environment, you walk outside and it's gorgeous, but we are here to accomplish things. [0:30:58.7]

Karl mentioned when we were here before, and I remember the discussions with the members of the Congressional Black Caucus, and it wasn't just those who owned hotels, it was members of government who had indicated then that the (inaudible) \$200 dollar duty-free or the amount that you could bring in the country hadn't changed in decades, in years and years and years. And I remember that members of the Congressional Caucus, the Congressional Black Caucus led by Congressman Charles Rangel, the Chairman, and now he wasn't the Chairman at that point, he went back to Washington and in a period of months the amount had doubled from \$200 to \$400 dollars. It was the right thing to do but you saw the power of this Congress. As I said, we might come together in wonderful places, but it is about business. It is about increasing the ties. It is about the business between the Caribbean and the United States and increasing those business opportunities, helping to raise the standard of living for many; helping to build businesses and institutions, that's what it is about. [0:32:09.5]

Last year, Karl had me down here and - no I'm sorry, last year after our conference I worked. I must admit, Karl had me as a luncheon speaker, we were outside, it was about 85 degrees and I was in a tie okay, I was in a suit and tie and it took me a couple of hours afterwards to dry out. But the one point that was made then was Karl looked at me, and those of you who know me in the

introduction as New York City's Controller, I'm a member, a trustee of four of our five pension boards, chief investment advisor to all five. Our total assets in knowing, it might have shrunk a little, but our total assets are about \$95 billion dollars right now. We are the fifth largest public pension fund in America. [applause at 0:33:02.4] At that point Karl looked at me and said, by the way how much of that is invested in the Caribbean basin? How much of that money is going to create, to build infrastructure, to help with tourism, healthcare and other things? And it was an impressive question and I went back and the answer was not much. Not much, so we started to go at that point down the path of looking at investment possibilities in the Caribbean basin; obviously a very promising area. [0:33:42.0]

To go back to quote just a couple of numbers as we would look at - now it has been a tumultuous year on Wall Street, at the same point, many of the investments, as we were termed that we have made in the emerging markets around the world, have outperformed developed markets. For instance, one year, three year, five year performance of emerging market equities has been on par or better than the United States private equity, the United States venture capital, Western European private equity and U.S. public markets. Clearly it makes sense for institutional investors to begin to move further into those waters of emerging markets. [applause at 0:34:25.8]

So we went back and started to engage, particularly we looked at private equity, and the way we invest usually isn't directly it is in private equity funds; so we began and our private equity consultant, we asked them to take an initial look at the Caribbean basin for how much initially should we be investing. And the number that they came back with was \$80 million dollars. That would be our first step into investment in the Caribbean basin through a variety of investment vehicles. We started to move down that path and unless I am wrong, and if I am I will be short a few people or I will lose a few people in my investment side, but I believe that yesterday back in the office, back in front of one of our pension boards, we approved the first application of \$30 million dollars to be invested in the Caribbean basin. [applause at 0:35:25.8] And, we are going to continue to move forward through other investment vehicles to invest and commit, or really to commit and invest, the additional \$50 million dollars and then we will take a step back and look for other possibilities. [0:35:46.8]

So I just wanted those to know that conversation, that investment of money, and as I pointed out it will range in everything from real estate to infrastructure, industries ranging from healthcare, financial services, energy, telecom, tourism and other areas, but that started last year at this conference. [applause at 0:36:09.8] So to those who say, "Jeeze you are going to St. Maarten? Have a wonderful time. I know you are going to spend a lot of time on the beach," Karl and Faye make sure that we are working hard and that we are getting things done. [0:36:28.6]

And at this conference, while it is great to see friends and colleagues and some people I don't get to see for a year, we are here working and we are here making sure that we increase and bring closer those ties that we have had in the past and that we are helping to grow business, that we are helping to improve quality of life both here in the Caribbean and back in the United States.

So again, it is a pleasure and let me say again to Karl and Faye, thank you so much for the leadership that you have shown. We look forward to your continued leadership for years to come. Thank you so much. [applause at 0:37:04.2]

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REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you for working hard while you are here and even back at home. Thank you. It is so good to be together. We do get to sit down and talk to each other here. We try to get on each other's calendars in the City and we never do, but here we are able to make and transact business and it's wonderful.

As a point of personal privilege, it is not everyday that you have a city world leader that you know very well is a man of faith first of all, who reads the Holy Scripture at your wedding. It's not everyday that you go into (inaudible) flavor at a press conference that he has called and then he comes to the hospital to see the birth of your first child. It's not everyday that you have someone who is there at the blessing of that child who's named after him. It's not everyday that you have someone who hosts Whitehouse Fellows when the run, coming to New York City and gives them the key to New York. And, it's not everyday that we have the first African American Mayor of the City of New York in our midst. We are in the midst of history here. He was the 106th Mayor for the City, but he is our number one Mayor, the Honorable Mayor David Dinkins, Professor in the Practice of Public Affairs at Columbia University [applause at 0:38:16.8], and our wonderful, wonderful leader who's shoulders we stand on and for who we cheer for in honor this day. Let's hear it for the Honorable David Dinkins. [0:38:28.4]

DAVID DINKINS: Well one thing is clear, if I had had the good fortune of having the Reverend introduce me more often I might have gotten re-elected. [laughter at 0:38:48.4] I am delighted to be here, but I want to clear one thing up from the start. I think it should be acknowledged that Faye Rodney has been such a wonderful person and to think that she permits her husband to come along with her the way he does [laughter at 0:39:10.1]. It's really nice. She even lets him think he's in charge every now and then. [laughter at 0:39:16.6] But they are a dynamic duo.

I am delighted to be here with you, I truly am and each year, I guess I've been here ten out of - at least ten times I think - and each year I try to get myself on the committee that will go and do the, make the decisions on where we are going to go next year so I can visit the islands but they have not yet let me come. But each year though, I insist that the tennis facilities be adequate, but I am not playing this time. But I want you to know my friends (inaudible) that they were out on the court this morning and I will get a report and it better be good. [laughter at 0:40:14.3]

I am delighted to be here with you, I truly am and we are taking a role and those folks who are not here now, but are still having breakfast or are out on the beach, we've got their names; [laughter at 0:40:33.0] and we are going to chastise them severely. But it really is a wonderful, wonderful opportunity to come together with friends. For me personally it gives me an opportunity to say thank you to so many of you who helped me become the 106th Mayor of New York. [0:40:51.2]

We say often that everybody stands on somebody's shoulders, and by that we mean Malcolm X and Martin Luther King and (inaudible) and Harriett Tubman and Rosa Parks and for me, for me personally, it also means Percy Ellis Sutton, [applause at 0:41:13.0] who ran in 1977 with such class and distinction that nobody laughed at me when I dared try in 1989. And we were successful and it is a broad leap. [0:41:33.6]

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Certainly, I was simply privileged to be the stand bearer, but it was many of you here gathered, many of you who worked with me, worked with me in our administration like Laura and Hazel and so many of you, and I know that we wouldn't have gotten nothing done had it not been for the man called the Rumble Genius by the New York Times, Bill Lynch. [0:42:02.3]

Bill used to say, good government is good politics. And you will note on his literature, he's got a consulting firm now and a whole heap of clients and is doing very, very well, you will note that he uses that slogan and it is certainly true. If you do that which is right in the first instance, it will inure to your benefit politically as well. [0:42:34.5]

So we didn't make judgments politically and then say well let's see how that will play out, we did it the other way around. We did what we thought was right and then it inured to our political benefit and I am so proud of so many of the people who helped us succeed as they go forth now. And I can't believe how young they were, some of them are still young even now and maybe it's because I am so old that it looks that way. But it really is an example of what can happen when good people come together and work hard. [0:43:11.7]

And I know that President-elect Obama is going to do well because he is going to surround himself with bright, intelligent, trustworthy people on whom he can rely on. Because no executive, no executive, not even Ed Goldberg, can get it done alone. You've got to have help and you've got to have people to whom you can delegate and you have to have people who will make a triage. You can't look at the thousands upon thousands of things that will come before you. They have to do a triage and bring to you those that they deem to be of significance for you to make a judgment, and then you will make a decision among them. [0:44:00.6]

I am confident that President-elect Obama will make the correct decision once he knows all the options, but he can't know all of the options if they aren't brought to him in the first instance. And the reason that I have such faith that he will be surrounded by good, bright people is the kind of campaign he ran. [applause at 0:44:26.1] He ran one hell of a campaign so it sort of suggests that he will do as well as our President. That is not easily done, particularly in these difficult times, but when Alan Greenspan said, "By God I didn't know it was this bad," or, never (inaudible) how the hell he doesn't know, how am I supposed to know." So it is difficult for sure, but we are going to survive this. They say that that doesn't kill you makes you stronger, so we are going to survive this. [0:45:01.0]

Ed Goldberg made reference to my custom, my habit that I got from African diplomats of instead of acknowledging everyone in the audience, which I would want to do and my staff would go absolutely crazy because I would acknowledge all of my friends and they - I did that once and my wife was standing right next to me and I acknowledged everybody in the house except her. Hell of a ride home [laughter at 0:45:29.6]. But, the African diplomats have this custom, they say, "Usual protocols observed." So, President Jackson that means that you have been acknowledged. [laughter at 0:45:45.2] See, that's the way they do it because if you do otherwise, if I go on to describe how Hazel is my assistant and how - let me tell you, you don't want Hazel against you ever, but by God if she is on your side, nothing can stop you; you will win. [applause at 0:46:12.5] And we are all going to turn out as she leaves us in celebration of NAACP's on it's anniversary it is going to be a

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monster, it's going to be a gas to be right in New York and I hope everyone here comes. It is really going to be something. [0:46:34.5]

I say to audiences, the media in particular has been asking me, "Well what's it like for President-elect Obama the first African American President of the United States?" And their theory is they are asking me because I was the first black Mayor and I try to explain that there is a world of difference. While I got to be the head of a city of 8 million plus people and that's terrific, and we have more separate ethnic identities than the United Nations has member nations, so we are truly a magnificent city, but Obama is not only the President of the United States, he is the leader of the free world. So you really can't make a comparison, you can't. Although, I am sure that he's got to feel wonderful because as he said as his grandmother wasn't there at the very end, but fortunately he got to see her, imagine how the family feels, his wife, his children, so I do understand that part and it is a hell of an accomplishment that he has done, but even he could not have done it without you. And he knows that and that is the beauty of it. [0:48:02.8]

I recognize that those of us who have been privileged to serve, it is a privilege and you have to see it that way and recognize it that way and do the best that you can under the circumstances, but never, ever believe that you got there alone, because that's just not true. I am almost amused, I say almost because I feel a little sorry for the distinguished Governor of Alaska, and it's coming out now how they are swallowing in house. I don't know whether you have seen the current press and how they talk about the poor lady and she is trying to defend herself and I almost, underline almost, feel sorry for her, but, she made it up there. [0:48:54.1]

So to my friend, Suzan, the Reverend Doctor Suzan Johnson-Cook, you all - many in this audience knows that she took a congregation of about 11 or 12 people, meeting at lunchtime down near City Hall, and built it into a congregation in excess of 1,000. She did that. [applause at 0:49:25.9] She is a very, very special, gifted woman. And I say that she is here with us at this 13th annual meeting, notwithstanding the loss of her dear brother, my friend, our friend, Charles, very recently. A young man who has gone to his reward and she is with us nonetheless and we appreciate it. [0:49:59.4]

Charles was quite a guy. He didn't like to be called Charlie incidentally; he was Charles. It's sort of like if somebody says they know Joe Hines who's name is Charles J. Hines and they'll say, "Oh, I know Charlie" and you know that they don't know him worth a damn because he is Joe Hines. [0:50:24.2]

So, to be here in the company of Carolyn Kilpatrick, the Representative in the Congress who takes care of our brother Charlie Rangel; that is special. That is special. You know one year we had something like 35 members of the Congressional Black Caucus here, I think it was 35, it was over 30 certainly, and that got the attention of a whole lot of people. It got the attention I'm confident of some sponsors who said well next year maybe we ought to up ours a bit and they did and that's the genius of Faye that she let's Karl come along with her here. [laughter at 0:51:15.3]

Its true that international black heads of states have prevailed in nations with majority black populations, but never before, never, ever in the history of the United States has the Chief of State, the Commander in Chief been other than a white male. And many of us grew up in the days of Jim Crow and dozens of African Americans were still being lynched; 24 in 1933 when I was six years

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old. They were still lynching folks and as a matter of fact I can recall some years later as we started to make (we meaning blacks) started to make some progress, we were told things like, "You Negroes (that's what they called us then) you Negroes shouldn't be so pushy, they only lynched five last year." We were supposed to be grateful that so few of us had died. [0:52:15.2]

Then there came World War II; segregation, as we went off to fight and die for our country. And when I got out of the Marine Corps in 1945-1946 and some of my classmates had shrapnel in their bodies, and we could not go to the movies downtown in Washington, D.C., the Nation's Capital, couldn't shop on F Street is you had to try something on, and this is after the war; the war that ended all wars. So we have come a long way since those days, but things are not perfect even now because I maintain that we live in a racist society that is the legacy of slavery, but that does not mean that we have not made great progress. Imagine a black man, President of the United States of America. [applause at 0:53:20.2]

I can remember when there were certain jobs you couldn't even apply for, couldn't even think about it. We got the right to vote by the 15th Amendment in 1870, but we weren't able to exercise that right to vote until 1965 when the Voting Rights Act was passed. As a matter of fact, if you think back on some of the games made during the Civil Rights Days by Dr. King and so many really heroic women and men. And I have to tell you I ain't to sure that I could have followed John Lewis getting beaten down into the ground and he kept coming back, I'm not sure that I could have done that. [0:54:18.7]

I'm not sure that I could have done what the Tuskegee Airmen did. You know about the Tuskegee Airmen, everybody does, they said blacks weren't intelligent enough to learn to fly. And then B.O. Davis who in four years at West Point nobody every spoke to him, they didn't talk to him, and he came through all of that and won the fight for black men to learn to fly and then they said, well you can't go into combat because you will be cowards and turn in the face of the enemy. And then they won that battle and they did it so well that people like Roscoe Brown and Lee Archer and Percy Sutton and so many others, they fly in cover for bombers and never lost a single bomber, not one. [applause 0:55:19.1] So much so that the white bomber pilots would ask for them and I can remember, while I wasn't personally there, the black Marines who were trained in Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, white troops went to Parris Island in South Carolina and they thought that the black Marines were somehow not quite as good as the white Marines, but when the black Marines hit the beach carrying ammo for the guys that were pinned down and running out of bullets, they loved them to death. It's funny what need will do; it's funny. [0:56:16.1]

This election has at last put to rest, I think, any doubt that Americans as a whole oppose the failed economic and social policies of the Bush administration, with its record deficits and recession. Billy Thompson knows about that. Phil used to properly regulate financial industries that led to the loss of retirement pensions and the sub-prime mortgage crisis, outsourcing of American jobs, increased unemployment and refusal to work toward a living wage for job offers, failure to support programs that curtail practices that harm the environment and damage or destroy natural resources, failure to end the war in Iraq and approve any meaningful plan to withdraw troops. [0:57:12.3]

Speaking of Iraq, don't it just get you right here when the Bush people lied to Colin Powell and sent him to the United Nations to tell those lies, and didn't it make you feel good when he came out

for Obama recently; I mean you know [applause at 0:57:38.5] by God, and he is a guy, you know, he is one of our heroes. He truly is, he truly is. [0:57:52.2]

The American people have spoken across the party lines, social classes and racial divide in support of programs to provide affordable and accessible healthcare, to stimulate economic growth and provide a living wage for American workers, to transform energy consumption and reduce American dependence on foreign oil to improve schools by ending No Child Left Behind, and end the war in Iraq and bring the troops home. Some of you will recall that when the troops came home after Vietnam, our country treated them terribly. They spit at them. They didn't ask to go, but they were treated awful. Korea was a little different. And as Charlie Rangle says, he hasn't seen a bad day since. Charlie was pinned down in a foxhole and came out of there with a Purple Heart and Bronze Star and he hasn't seen a bad day since. [0:58:57.2]

But, even though Americans, whether Democrats, Republicans or Independents, have responded overwhelmingly in support of measure that the new President may be compromised I say, at the outset by the actions of the outgoing administration. Keep in mind that he doesn't take office until January 20th and I'm counting on our friends in the Congress to do whatever they can to see to it that he doesn't start off in a whole, because that is what can happen. It is possible; I hope it doesn't happen. [0:59:41.9]

Earlier this year in February of 2008 I participated in a panel at a meeting of the Independent Newspapers International Advisory Board in Cape Town, South Africa on the topic "End of the Bush Era in the United States." And our discussion, neither prophetic or profound, merely reflected the ground swell for change that has this week resulted in one of the most historic moments in American history; the landslide election of the first African American to the Presidency of the United States of America. [1:00:20.7]

The majority of the American public, irrespective of political party affiliation welcomes the end of the Bush administration, by whatever measure we choose to evaluate its impact, domestic and global, this has been a failed presidency that has brought the United States to the brink of disaster and some say beyond the brink. We could recite the long list of offenses perpetrated or orchestrated by that administration that have passed in the name of foreign policy and global economy. [1:00:57.0]

While the United States has now emerged from unprecedented two-year campaigns, some like the New York Times editorial staff have cautioned that we should pay close attention to the efforts underway to perpetrate the policies of the past seven years with Bush. And at the risk of putting a damper on the celebration of Tuesday's victory, I do feel compelled to call attention to a few of the concerns that lay immediately ahead. [1:01:31.7]

True the Congress has a Democratic majority and the political capital of the sitting administration has been all but spent by the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the worst economy since the Great Depression, but even with the lowest approval rating of any president in the history of our country, he has pressed on to do everything possible within his remaining days to compromise the new president, who will take office with the greatest mandate from the people in a century. [1:02:05.6]

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He has abused the political process more than any of his predecessors, undermining the power of Congress through the use of Signing Statements. Over the last seven years he has issued hundreds of these documents, devices showing us that he had no intention of obeying laws, that he has claimed impinged on the constitutional powers of the Chief Executive. Examples of such Signing Statements are those that authorize domestic surveillance without warrants, torture of prisoners in violation of the Geneva Convention, and firing U.S. Attorneys for political reasons. [1:02:50.5]

Others include a host of executive actions designed to impede congressional programs to expand health insurance and prevent further pollution of the environment. The disastrous Bush Lame Duck Budget proposal announced at his last State of the Union Address contained provisions for permanent tax cuts for the wealthy and the highest level of military spending since World War II and reductions in spending for medical research, environmental protection and education. [1:03:26.9]

President Obama will have to contend with this and a series of other eleventh hour measures. We are confident that Congress will reach across the aisle to combat the resultant stranglehold from President Obama's ability and move forward our country. We have a long way to go in repairing the damage done over the past seven years. And although we deserve to relish the moment of victory, we do understand that we have more battles to fight and miles to go before we sleep. [1:04:00.1]

We should congratulate those other political leaders, some of whom are with us here today in St. Maarten, for their election and reelection victories as well. [applause at 1:04:11.2] And as one of these, the Dean of the New York City Delegation of Democrats, my brother Charlie Rangle. And this is a quote from my brother. Charlie says, "The world we look at is a world of many colors, many cultures, many faiths and what we as Americans have to offer is our experience in creating a diverse society as we show the world all of the diversity that is the strength of America. We reflect our values and present an example to the world. With our nation growing international involvement there could be no better time to attract the best and most diverse (inaudible) to represent the American people in every corner of the globe." so says Charlie Rangle. [1:05:05.3]

When we break for lunch we will hear the distinguished Governor of my home state of New York, the Honorable David A. Paterson. He will talk about the importance of building upon the partnerships necessary to translate the watershed victory of democracy in the United States into lasting change. I can't resist remind us that the governor's father, Basil Paterson, once won 61 out of 62 counties in New York State in a Democratic Primary for Lieutenant Governor. And then he joined the (inaudible) of Goldberg. He was a former United States Secretary of Labor, former United States Supreme Court Justice, former United States United Nations Ambassador, the lousiest damn candidate you ever saw. So Basil did not win, but he would have become the first black Lieutenant Governor of New York State and eyes on the first black governor. So imagine, as I sat in the front row at the state committee meeting and Basil placed David's name in nomination for Lieutenant Governor. I had tears in my eyes. It had come full circle and now that same David is Governor of the State of New York and you will hear from him later. [applause at 1:06:41.3]

Later this afternoon we will meet to share our thoughts and plans for sharing working solutions to education. There are challenges in business and political leaders will be to craft strategies for keeping the doors of the international education open to our future leaders. The world will be a

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dimmer place if we let the lamp of knowledge go out for a generation of our young people. It is within our power to turn up the flame and keep it burning bright, and in the words of President-elect Barack Obama, "Yes we can." [applause at 1:07:24.8]

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you Mr. Mayor, and thank you for looking so wonderful. He's dapper, Amen! Doesn't he look good? [laughter and applause at 1:07:42.4] And Barack Obama stands on your shoulders because you took the blows that shows what a man of faith could do and we thank you for representing us well. [1:07:52.3]

We also are joined by many a (inaudible) joints throughout this conference by many elected officials and some are here this morning; elected officials from the State of New York. You will hear later from the Honorable David Paterson, you heard from our City Controller Honorable William C. Thompson, Jr., Honorable Adolfo Carrion, Jr., President of the Borough of the Bronx; Honorable Nick Perry the Assemblyman for New York State, The Honorable Ruth Hassle-Thompson, State Senator New York State, the Honorable Keith Wright is with us this morning, Assemblyman for the New York State the Honorable Inez Dickens, Council Whip, Member of the New York City Council, and Honorable Dr. Kendall Stewart, Member of the New York City Council. Can we applaud for all of the elected officials from the State of New York? [applause at 1:08:34.3]

And then members of Congress who will be joining us throughout, some of whom you heard last night and today, the Honorable Donald Payne, the Chair of the Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, the Honorable Bennie Thompson, Chair of Homeland Security, Honorable Donna Christensen, the Honorable Chair of the Subcommittee on National Resources, Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee and now we are also going to hear from one of our Presidents of the Congressional Black Caucus, the Honorable Carolyn Cheeks-Kilpatrick. We are going to the federal level y'all [applause at 1:09:09.6] who is our President, Madam President and will be working with Mr. President would you please come and let us receive her this morning for what a wonderful job you have done and you have served with distinction as well and we celebrate and salute you this morning. Can we applaud the other members of the Congress who are with us? [applause at 1:09:29.1]

REP. CAROLYN CHEEKS-KILPATRICK: Giving honor to God who is the head of my life, present protocol being established [laughter at 1:09:46.3], but I've got to say a couple even given that. To Faye and Karl, its really thoroughly been said but thank you from the bottom of all of our hearts. We could not do this without you. Thank you very, very much. [applause 1:10:00.4] We could (inaudible) every week in our Washington offices, but that's how we keep up with the Caribbean if not for the newspaper, there would be no association that we could actually see and know what is going on and how we (inaudible) so thank you very much from the bottom of our heart. Thank you very much. [applause at 1:10:18.6] Commissioner Wescot-Williams as well as all the commissioners over here. St. Maarten, one more time, thank you for hosting us one more time, we love you, thank you very much. [1:10:29.4]

Our key ingredients for the Congressional Black Caucus where I Chair 43 members, we come from 21 states, we present over 40 million Americans; [applause at 1:10:40.8] five full Committee Chairs. 17 Subcommittee Chairs and others like the Majority Whip and Jim Clyburne from South

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Carolina and others who help to control the Congress. We have the first African doctor in the house, a member of our Caucus who chairs our health branches and very instrumental in us being here, why don't you welcome my sister. Dr. Congresswoman Donna Christensen. [applause 1:11:11.7] Thank you, we love you.

It was mentioned earlier that, and I'm going to say who else is here, you heard from Dr. Payne and I know if he is here in this room you will hear from him again. you did last night, who chairs our Western Hemisphere Committee. Bennie Thompson who is here and I think he came through last night, he chairs our Homeland Security Committee also will be here. Sheila Jackson Lee from Houston, Texas and I know many of you know her, she is en route and will be here just shortly. Our number uno Congressman, second only to John Conyers in seniority, from the great state of New York, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. our big brother Charlie Rangle will be here this afternoon. [applause at 1:11:55.3]

And what you probably don't know is the federal budget is \$3 trillion dollars. Charlie's committee handles \$2 trillion of that for Medicare, Medicaid, for veterans programs; his committee is the committee that produces the revenue, \$2 trillion of it, giving it out in what we call entitlements to those programs. I served on Appropriations where the committee spends the money, and I like that too. We spend a million and Charlie generates it and gives it all by formula to the entire committee and our committee handles the appropriations in sending it out. [1:12:33.0]

Together we make up the Congressional Black Caucus and it was said earlier, many more members will be coming and will have come over the years, but I just wanted to say a point of personal privilege, this last six months, the last two months and the last two weeks, members of the Congressional Black Caucus have been crisscrossing America for our now President, Senator Barack Obama. [applause at 1:13:00.1] Even as we had our own elections [applause 1:13:02.4] Tuesday we were all on the ballot as well but (inaudible) just thinking as it relates to it's is major, but most of us went to many states all over this country. [1:13:12.4]

You see 18 of our members represent less than 50% of the African Americans; three of our members represent less than 15% African Americans, the most that any of us represent is a 62% African American so we represent all of America, Asians, Africans, Latinos, Europeans, Native Americans, you name it and we are called the conscious of the Congress and we really are that you know. [1:13:38.5]

God built us from a certain kind of way and we got some of this stuff in us that you do, you cross ethnic lines and it makes us stand up for righteousness, speak up on injustices and when we see something wrong you have to hear it because, of course, we are the conscious of the Congress. So in the spirit of (inaudible) is that Congresswoman Christensen talks about healthcare it's real. They have more because we have less. [1:14:03.2]

We hope and we know that with President Obama yes we had some difficult times in the Mayor laid them out well. And to the sponsors by the way, all of you, we couldn't do this. be with you. help Karl if you weren't here with us so we say thank you very much, you are so important. To all of the sponsors, thank you very much. [applause at 1:14:23.9]

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So as we move to these next four years, two months, 32 days - talk about the short period between November 5th and August 20th, [sic] President Bush is still the President. Our Constitution says that if there is unrest or malice or whatever, the sitting President can hold off and not let happen the January 20th date. There isn't many people that know about that, so we don't want any - we were kind of scared about November 4th when we won. We wanted everybody to be prayerful, be (inaudible) and have fun and all that, don't burn [1:15:00.5]

END PART 2

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TRANSCRIPT OF AUDIO FILE:

11-7AMSESSION - LAST 20 MIN

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BEGIN PART 3:

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON COOK: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Thank you for looking so wonderful. He's dapper. Amen. Doesn't he look good? (clapping). Barack stands on your shoulders because you took the blows and showed what a man of faith could do and we thank you for representing us well.

We also are joined by many and will be joined throughout this conference by many elected officials. Some are here this morning; elected officials from the State of New York. You will hear later from the Honorable David Patterson. You've heard from our city controller, William C. Thompson, Jr., Honorable Adolpho Carrion, Jr., President of the Burroughs of the Bronx, Honorable Nick Hardy, the assemblyman from New York State, the Honorable Ruth Hassell Thompson, State Senator of New York State, the Honorable Keith Wright is with us this morning, assemblyman from New York State, the Honorable Inez Dickens, council whip member of the New York City Council, and Honorable Dr. Kendall Stuart, member of the New York City Council. Can we applaud for all of the elected officials of the State of New York? (clapping).

Members of Congress who will be joining us throughout. Some of whom you have heard from them last night and today, the Honorable Donald Payne, Chair of Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, the Honorable Bennie Thompson, Chair of Homeland Security, Honorable Donna Christensen, the Honorable Chair of Subcommittee on National Resources, Honorable Sheila Jackson-Lee, and now we hope to also hear from one of our presidents of the Congressional Black Caucus, the Honorable Carolyn Cheeks-Kilpatrick. We're going to the federal level you all; who is our (inaudible) president. We're only working with Mr. President. Will you please come and let us receive her this morning for what a wonderful job you have done and you have served with distinction as well, and we celebrate and salute you this morning. Can we applaud the other members of Congress (inaudible) (clapping).

REP. CAROLYN CHEEKS-KILPATRICK: Giving honor to God who's the head of my life, present protocol being established, but I've got to say in comfort even given that. To Fay and Karl, really (inaudible) really from the bottom of all of our hearts, I cannot be this without you. Thank

you very much. We could (inaudible) ever week in our Washington offices and that's how we keep up with the Caribbean. If not for the newspaper, there would be no association that we could actually see and know what's going on and how we plug in. So thank you very much from the bottom of my heart. Thank you very much.

Commissioner Wescott-Williams, as well as all commissioner's who are here, St. Maarten, one more time. Thanks for hosting us. We love you. Thank you very much.

I bring you greetings from the Congressional Black Caucus, where I chair 43 members. We come from 21 states. We represent over 40 million Americans, 5 full mini chairs, 17 subcommittee chairs, and others like the majority whip and Jim Clyburn from South Carolina, and others who helped to control the Congress. We have the first African doctor in the house, a member of our caucus, who chairs our health brain trust and very instrumental in being here. As being here, won't you welcome my sister back, your Congresswoman Donna Christensen? Thank you, Donna. We love you.

It was mentioned earlier that, I'm going to say who else is here, you heard from Donald Payne, and I know if he's hear in this room, you will hear from him again. You did last night. He chairs our Western Hemisphere Committee. Bennie Thompson, who's here, and I think he came through last night, he chairs our Homeland Security Committee. Also will be here. Sheila Jackson-Lee from Houston, Texas. I know many of you know her. En route, she will be here just shortly. Our number uno congressman, second only to John Conyers in seniority, from the great State of New York, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, our big brother. Charlie Rangel, will be here this afternoon.

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As it was said earlier, many more members will be coming and have come over the years, but I just wanted to say, a point of personal privilege. This last 6 months, the last 2 months, and the last 2 weeks. Members of the Congressional Black Caucus have been criss-crossing America for our now president, Senator Barack Obama. Even as we had our own election. Tuesday, August 4th, we were all on the ballot as well, but ours wasn't as significant as relates to us as major, but most of us went to many states all over this country. You see, 18 of our members represent less than 50% African-American. Three of our members represent less than 15% African-American. The most that any of us represent is 62% African-American. So we represent all of America; Asians. Africans, Latinos, Europeans, Native Americans. You name it.

We're called the Conscience of the Congress and we really are that. You know. God built us in a certain kind of way. We got some of this stuff in us, as you do with you. Across ethnic lines, it makes us stand up for righteousness, speak up on injustices, and when we see something wrong.

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you have to hear it because, of course, we're the Conscience of the Congress. So the disparities that Donna, Congresswoman Christensen, talks about in health care, it's real. They have more because we have less. We hope and we know that with President Obama, yes we have some difficult times and the Mayor laid them out well. And to the sponsors by the way, all of you all. We couldn't do this, be with you, help Karl if you weren't here with us. We say, "thank you very much. You are so important". All the sponsors. Thank you very much.

So as we move through these next 4 years, 2 months, 32 days, talk about the short period between November 5th and August 20th. President Bush is still the president. Our constitution says that if there is unrest or malice or whatever, the sitting president can hold off and not let happen the 20th day. There are few people that know about that. So we don't want any, we were kind of scared about November 4th when we won. We wanted everybody to do prayer. There will be a tone-in and have fun, and all that. Don't burn nothing down. Don't burn up a car and all that because they're waiting. Some people are waiting. Some people are very angry. We are euphoric. God is euphoric and people across ethnic lines, you saw them. The multi-cultural facets of America happy because it was a perfect storm. Financial markets crashing. People losing jobs. Health care unaffordable. Our schools in shambles. Big bad America and we still are; it's just this 8 years we have a man in the White House who knew not Joseph. In his leadership of our country, he not only decimated America, but caused havoc around the world. I know you know that.

So we've got a lot of building to do. What Karl and Fay has done is to energize each of us so we take our rightful places. All of you and all of us together. I'm going to bring into this room 2 of my sisters who we lost over the last year. Congresswoman Stephanie Stubb-Jones, Cleveland, Ohio, will be right here. Right over here, smiling and said 'Let's do this'. I want you to give a shout-out for Stephanie. She's up in here right now. Congresswoman Juanita Milligram-McDonald from Los Angeles, also with the ancestors are up in here right now. Both chair people I might add. Congresswoman Stephanie Stubb-Jones (sp) of our Ethics Committee and Congresswoman Juanita (inaudible) McDonald of our House Administration Committee. Finally, all during this tenure, 2 years is what Congress is, this is the 110th congress. So many historical things have happened that I mentioned to you already, including electing our first African-American president. Then finally Julia Carson from Indianapolis, Indiana, also (inaudible) has been to this conference many many times.

So my brothers and sisters across racial, ethnic gender, geographic, biological, (inaudible) we have much work to do. but it can be done. Because I believe there is a higher power who's directing all of this. We just have to know it and believe it, and do it, and be centered in a higher power.

So as members of the Congressional Black Caucus, as we go back next week to address the financial crisis. You all have been hearing about this \$700 billion. every time I say it, we handle a trillion, our committee. \$700 billion is what we just gave out or given out as we speak. The good thing about that, they were trying to give it all out. \$300 billion of it is gone, but the good news, the new president, anything they put in force, he can pull it back. So we have an opportunity to do some real comprehensive stuff.

The housing market? No more foreclosures. Those same people who got the \$700 billion, they were the ones who caused 80%, 85% of the foreclosing. Do you all know that? Predatory lending.

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Loss of jobs. Shifting our jobs over seas. You see, when the financial people do their thing, (inaudible) a billion here and here. It's paper. It's two clicks of the mouse. They were selling bad paper then and they were making big money. My sister, Susan. Let's give Susan a hand. Essence Magazine. Love you girl. (inaudible). We have to be smarter and better as we go forward. Senator Barak Obama, and you may have heard about his prudent campaign. Most of us in this room a 1-1/2 or 2 years, we thought it couldn't done, because we lived with the same people who had to do it. But the perfect storm. Don't forget that. The perfect storm caused by humans. Greedy humans in many cases.

I do a lot of work in the Middle East; Egypt, as well as Lebanon. I do (inaudible) and they're great people, but this president castigated Arabs. In Michigan, where I come from, and John Conyers, we have the largest population of Arabs outside of the Middle East. They've been in our community for decades. They go to our schools. Our children know them. They help and help to build the community. Yes, there are a few bad ones who blew up some (inaudible). God took care of them. They're going to be taking care of. But just like we don't want everybody to measure African-American by a few who do bad things, there are good things in all people. I believe that as President Obama comes into fruition, a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, his job, and he really does believe this, is to bring the races of God's people together. Whether you know God as God, or Allah, or Jehovah, or what have you, that if you really believed in a higher power, let's get busy and rebuild the world.

So, my brothers and sisters, we got a lot of work to do and you do as we go back to New York. Keep the (inaudible) operating. Keep your will strong and knowing that, as president takes his oath and pray that nothing happens between November 5th and January 20th. He can call marshall law. He can go around the country and lock up heathens and Christians, which isn't going to happen. Lock up anybody who might be subversive or such. Create an environment so that January 20th may not ever happen. That's the nightmare. Now snap back. Wake up. He won. It's going to be all right. Let's build a new America again. Let's make sure that our children can have adequate education because it's no longer Michigan against Indiana or Ohio, Michigan against China. It's US against the world and we can build those partnerships the way we do with Faye and Karl, and all of us who have been working for all of these years.

Thirteen is a significant number in the Bible. Thirteen is a number that renews us, gets us ready for the next state of our development. So as we meet here in beautiful St. Maarten, let us rededicate ourselves to a higher power to each other, to knowing that we can do anything but fail. God bless you. (clapping).

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON COOK: Now that's a sister who's got it going on. Thank you so, so much, Congresswoman, Madam President of the Congressional Black Caucus. We can see why. Amen. We are looking forward to great things ahead and you have us as the wind beneath your wings. All of you Congressional Black Caucus members, we are with you so much. Let the church say, "Amen".

We just want to share with you before we present our next speaker. This evening, our host country is going to present us with a fantastic affair. It's going to be offsite and we hope you won't miss it. Transportation is going to be coordinated and we are going to ask that you meet in the lobby at 6:15

tonight. The transportation will be coordinated by our local government. It's a casual event. It's a beach site affair tonight and we're asking all conference attendees to gather at 6:15 sharp in the lobby for departure. So that's our night affair tonight and we will repeat that announcement throughout the day. If you will just please make note of that as we go forward.

We've heard from the city level. We have heard from the federal government. You know, we are so excited about our first African-American president and many of us also wanted a woman in and it was not a woman's time. It was time for Barak Obama, but in this country, it is a woman's time. As the commissioner who is the leader of government for St. Maarten. Come on somebody. It is Commissioner Sarah Westcot-Williams, our host. She has been gracious. She is elegant. She is eloquent and we are excited about being received by her today. Commissioner Sarah Westcot-Williams. (clapping)

COMMISSONER SARAH WESTCOT-WILLIAMS: Thank you reverends and a very good morning. There's another way to deal with the selfish (sp) protocol and that is by saying, "Welcome friends to St. Maartens". I can say this notwithstanding the many luminaries in our midst because it is truly a welcome to old friends and new acquaintances.

This conference, at this time, on this island, would not have been possible if it was not for the resoluteness and conviction of Mr. and Mrs. Rodney. It was 6 years ago that many of you were here on St. Maarten for the conference as well. It is with a lot of confidence that last year, I threw out the idea of why not again St. Maarten., has been at that time five years ago. This year, it is six years ago. It was only after throwing it up as we sat down to plan, I realized that this conference would have been held two days following the most important election in modern times of the United States of America. As we, Commissioner Malven (sp) and myself visited Karl and Fay in New York, I said to him, "Karl, as much as I want this conference on St. Maarten, I don't know if the timing is right." He said without being presumptuous about the outcome of the election, he said, "Oh no. I believe the timing is right". And with a glee in his eyes, I suspected that he was counting on a victory and a big one, and felt that St. Maarten would be a place where we could celebrate that victory.

This small island of ours, and I'm aware of the clock just in case I was to get any sign from the back, but this small island of ours, only 37 square miles and that is both sides of the island, tonight you probably would understand. You will get to know how we share the island, but I can tell you that St. Maarten is the smallest side of the two. Nevertheless, we accommodate close to two million tourists annually on this island. Approximately 1.3 million visit our island by cruise and the others come here to stay over with us, relax and enjoy our island. And yes it is so opportune and truly a region in transition.

Throughout this region, every island, every island nation, every country, is going through some sort of transition. For St. Maarten itself, we are going through a major constitutional transition. Moving from what others term as called an island territory, a remnant of a colonial system, to that of country within the kingdom of the Netherlands. The French side, just last year, moved from a French municipality to what is called in their terms, "a collectivity". So yes, this region is truly in transition and change is all around us. This side is so important for the relationships between the

United States of America and the Caribbean region. I am again so thrilled to hear so many of you speak of kinship, relationships, and ancestry as you recognize this region for what it is.

Term water (sp)? Yes. Maybe, but definitely a part of the United States of America. However you take it or twist it. The Diaspora of the West Indies and the United States of America. It's big. It is great and we need to continue to recognize that forging those relationships strengthen it year after year through this conference call is extremely important. As if it wasn't enough to realize that we were going to start a conference two days after such an important election, just barely three weeks ago, St. Maarten was brushed by Hurricane Omar, a category 3 hurricane. So if you were around and you noticed that the scenery is not exactly what you expected of it, if you feel a little in the roads as you go from place to place, recognize that that is what had happened. But Karl decided the conference was going to go on and the conference will go on, Karl, right here in St. Maarten.

So tonight it is my pleasure to host you at another side of the island because you are here two days after the election, two days after a historic election, and yes, notwithstanding the turmoil and the challenges, President Barak Obama is going to face, the party too will continue and the party on St. Maarten will continue this evening on the other side of the island hosted by the Government of St. Maarten. I encourage you and those who are part of the latest workshop this afternoon, to do it well, right, and try to get out as soon as possible so that we can move from here in a timely fashion and the police escort will only be something to show you how proud we are of having all of you here. But we will get to the other side of the island nicely, on time. A region in transition. Thank you for being here at this time in your history and in our history.

I welcome all of you and it is wonderful to be able to open this conference in a time like this because it is for such a time that you are here and we are here, and it is such a time that President Barak Obama was chosen to lead the United States of America and, with that leadership, to be the leader of the free world. If, just if, approximately 40,000 more persons voted could have given him even more votes, he would have had those from right here on St. Maarten, the friendly island of the early (inaudible). So today, we too rejoice with you and we too are hopeful that the change that is coming will be a good one for all of us. We just hope that some of that invigoration and renewed energy that we all will get from this conference will serve you well, when you go back and will serve us well as we continue to build our island nations from strength to strength and with God, all things are possible. Have we not seen that on November 4, 2008. What a wonderful way to celebrate and, Karl, what a wonderful thing to happen (inaudible) St. Maarten and deciding the conference welcomes the 13th Annual Multi-National Caribbean Business Conference. Thank you. Welcome. Enjoy it and may God continue to bless you richly. Thank you.

The question was how casual can you be tonight? You be as casual as you feel comfortable on an island that is your host. So men, absolutely no jacket and ties. I would not recommend that, but be as casual as you've been comfortable. Thank you.

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON COOK: All right. This is where we break. Hold on. We have (inaudible) ceremony. If you will just wait for us please. We're going to invite all of the sponsors and the elective officials to please join the Rodneys as our host today, here up front for our ribbon cutting ceremony. All of our sponsors, all of our elected officials that are present, please come and

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join us up front. Those who are our speakers this morning, please right here in the front of the stage, and we will be lead. All rise. (singing)

END TRANSCRIPT

09-4403 0058

Exhibit 4

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative of Citi
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: March 17, 2009
Location: AkinGump NYC - 399 Park Ave, New York, NY
Time: approximately 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: The Representative of Citi was the Citi employee who managed their donation to the Thirteenth Annual Multinational Business Conference. The OCE requested an interview with the Representative of Citi and he consented. The Representative of Citi made the following statements in response to questioning:

1. The Representative of Citi was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. The Representative of Citi signed a written acknowledgement of the warning [attached],
2. The Representative of Citi was laid off from Citibank on December 15, 2008. At the time he was laid off he was Community Relations Officer for Brooklyn and Staten Island
3. The Representative of Citi joined Citi in December 2003. He had previously worked for Chase in a similar capacity. Chase sponsored previous Caribbean Multinational Business Conferences. The Representative of Citi attended the conference when he was at Chase. Chase was the first financial institution to act as a sponsor at the conference.
4. When he came to Citi, he was told to "lead the charge" in terms of Citi's participation in the conference. His superiors made the decision that Citi should participate.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

5. The Representative of Citi's direct supervisor was Eileen Aulden, New York State Director; she reported to Kathy Ebanks, Regional Director. Eric Eve, Senior Vice President for Community Relations headed the Representative of Citi's department. Mr. Eve made the decision to support the conference and decided on the dollar amount. The Representative of Citi was in charge of managing Citi's participation.
6. Citi donated \$75,000 to support the conference. Citi was the only "senior" sponsor. The money was specifically for the conference. Citi did not put any specific restrictions on how the money could be used to support the conference. The check came from Citi's sponsorship budget and was either made out to the Carib News or the Carib News Foundation.
7. In previous years the amount Citi donated was less. In 2007 it was \$50,000.
8. Karl Rodney chose the location of the conference. Governments in the region made bids to host the conference.
9. The only person from the conference that the Representative of Citi dealt with was Rodney. The Representative of Citi met with Rodney on 5 occasions between May and November 2008. These meetings concerned the program at the conference and Citi's participation in it. These meetings were not about the amount of Citi's sponsorship or to negotiate that in any way. The Representative of Citi described this interaction as a "dialogue" with Rodney. Rodney was receptive to suggestions about the program.
10. At these meeting the Representative of Citi would tell Rodney how he would like to "position" Citi at the conference. Citi participated in the luncheon, with Eve as a keynote speaker, and in workshops that fit their business. The lunch topic was set by Rodney. The Representative of Citi then tried to "position" Eve in a complimentary way. The Representative of Citi recalls suggesting to Rodney that Citi could do a workshop on financial education.
11. Rodney did not present a written agenda for the conference before any of their 5 meetings. The first time the Representative of Citi saw a written agenda was a week or a week and a half before the conference began in early November. The Representative of Citi recalls seeing a draft agenda. He was shown the draft agenda submitted to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct [attached as Exhibit B] and said he saw some version of the draft agenda but not this specific one. He did recall seeing the panel entitled, "Creative Financial Solutions" on page 9 of Exhibit B. He said when he saw

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

that panel he thought he could participate in the panel and talk about foreclosures. He “vetted” that topic internally at Citi and then proposed it to Rodney and Rodney agreed.

12. The Representative of Citi attended the dinner on Thursday night. He does not recall Congressman Payne speaking.
13. The Representative of Citi participated in the ribbon cutting with members of Congress, host government officials and major sponsors on the Friday morning of the conference. The Representative of Citi got sick on Friday and missed the evening event.
14. Eve did not have a sit-down meeting with the members of Congress in attendance to the Representative of Citi’s knowledge.
15. The Representative of Citi did not have more than “ cursory” conversations with the Members of Congress who attended. He saw all members that attended more than once. He saw most of them on Friday and had seen everyone by Saturday.
 - a. The Representative of Citi recalled Congressman Rangel was there. The Representative of Citi thought he first saw him on Friday and saw him on Saturday. The Representative of Citi thought he saw him at different events.
 - b. The Representative of Citi saw Congressman Payne on more than one occasion.
 - c. The Representative of Citi saw Representative Kilpatrick early on Friday. He does not recall her speaking.
 - d. The Representative of Citi saw Representative Thomson on Thursday; he saw him on more than one occasion.
16. 300 to 350 people typically attended the event. It was open to anyone.
17. The conference was billed as the Carib News conference. Rodney is the publisher and CEO of the Carib News. In May or June one would start seeing advertisements for the conference on the back page of the Carib News. The Representative of Citi thought Citi’s check went to the Carib News Foundation but did not know what the Foundation did other than the conference. The Representative of Citi thought the conference was “totally” financed by the sponsors. He did not know if Carib News put up any money for the conference.

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18. The Representative of Citi said Rodney saw the conference as an opportunity to position the Carib News as the "voice of the Caribbean" which is how the paper markets itself in New York.
19. Citi saw the conference as offering Citi three benefits: (1) it sent a message to their partners; (2) it was a business opportunity; and (3) it was good for Citi's image.
20. The members of Congress lent the meeting "clout."
21. Sponsors also bought ad space in the Carib News. This was not part of their sponsorship of the conference. Citi bought ad space in the Carib News.
22. The Representative of Citi also knows Rodney from the Board of the University of the West Indies. Both he and Rodney are members and participate in telephone meetings and, occasionally, in in-person meetings.

We certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with the Representative of Citi on March 17, 2009.

Leo J. Wise
Staff Director & Chief Counsel

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name:  _____

Signature:  _____

Date: MARCH 23, 2009 _____

For Office Use:

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 5

13th ANNUAL CARIBBEAN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

St. Michael's
Hotel & Casino

November 6-9, 2008



13th

ANNUAL CARIBBEAN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

13th

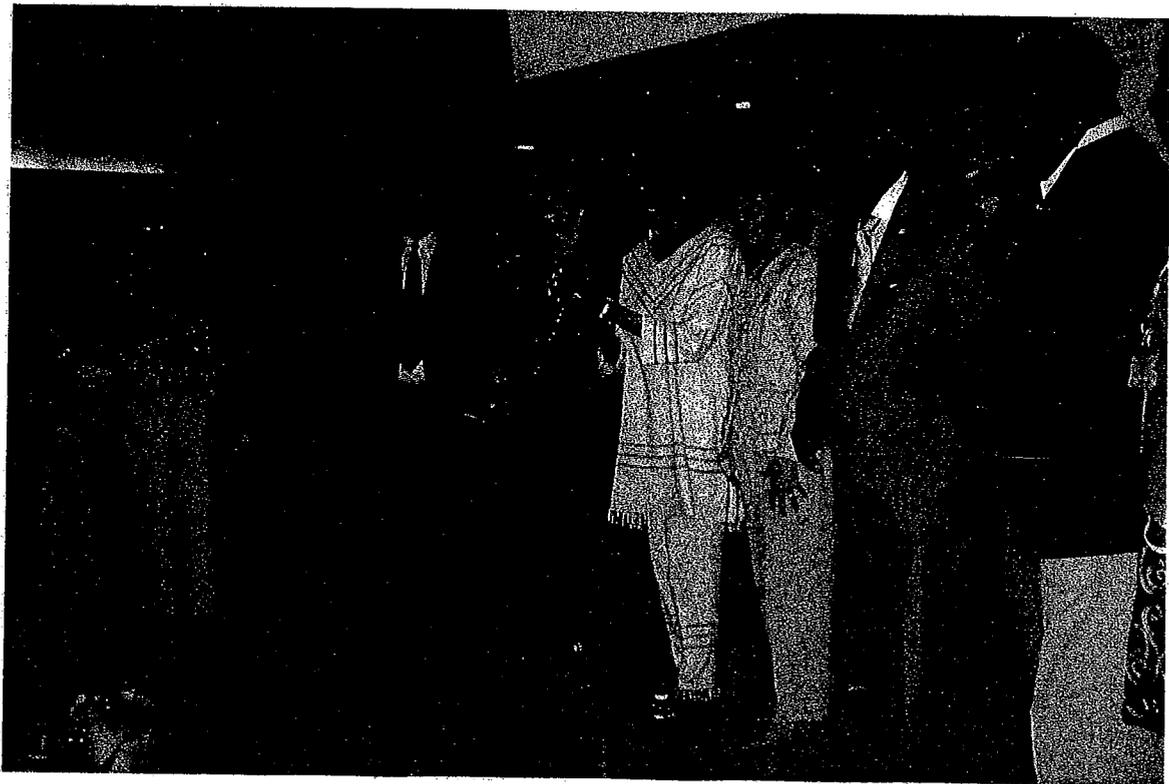
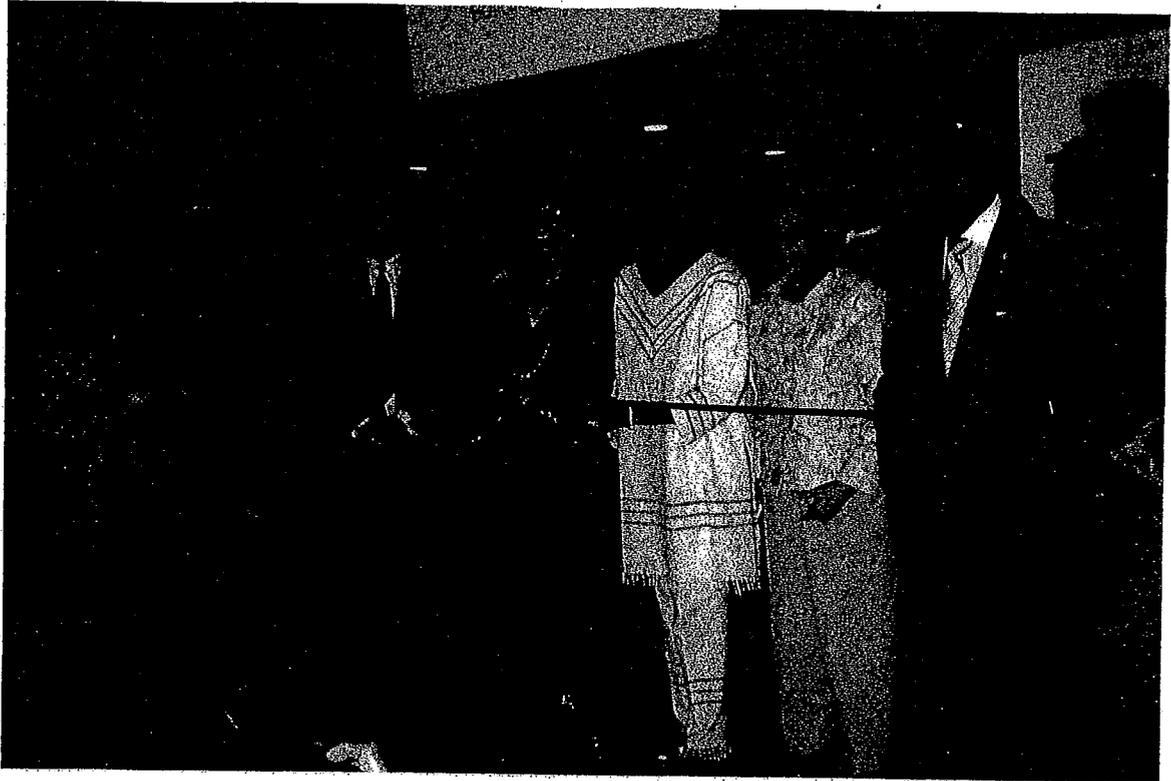
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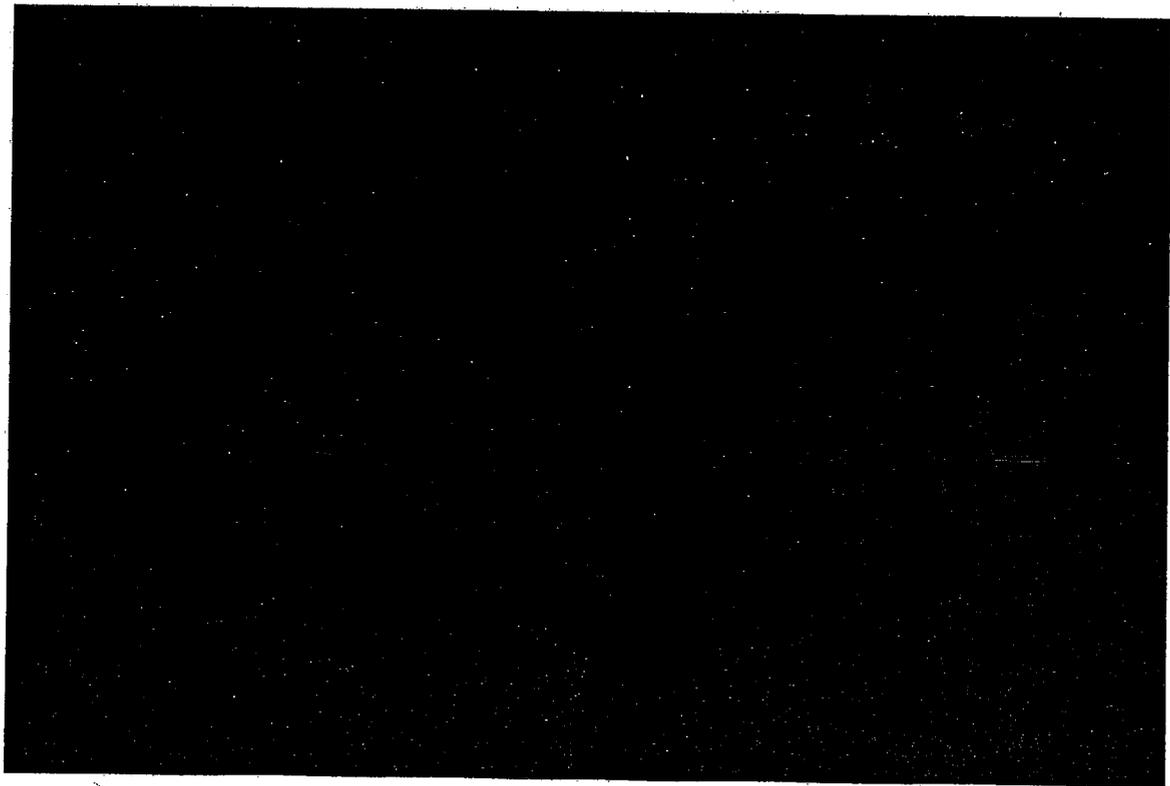
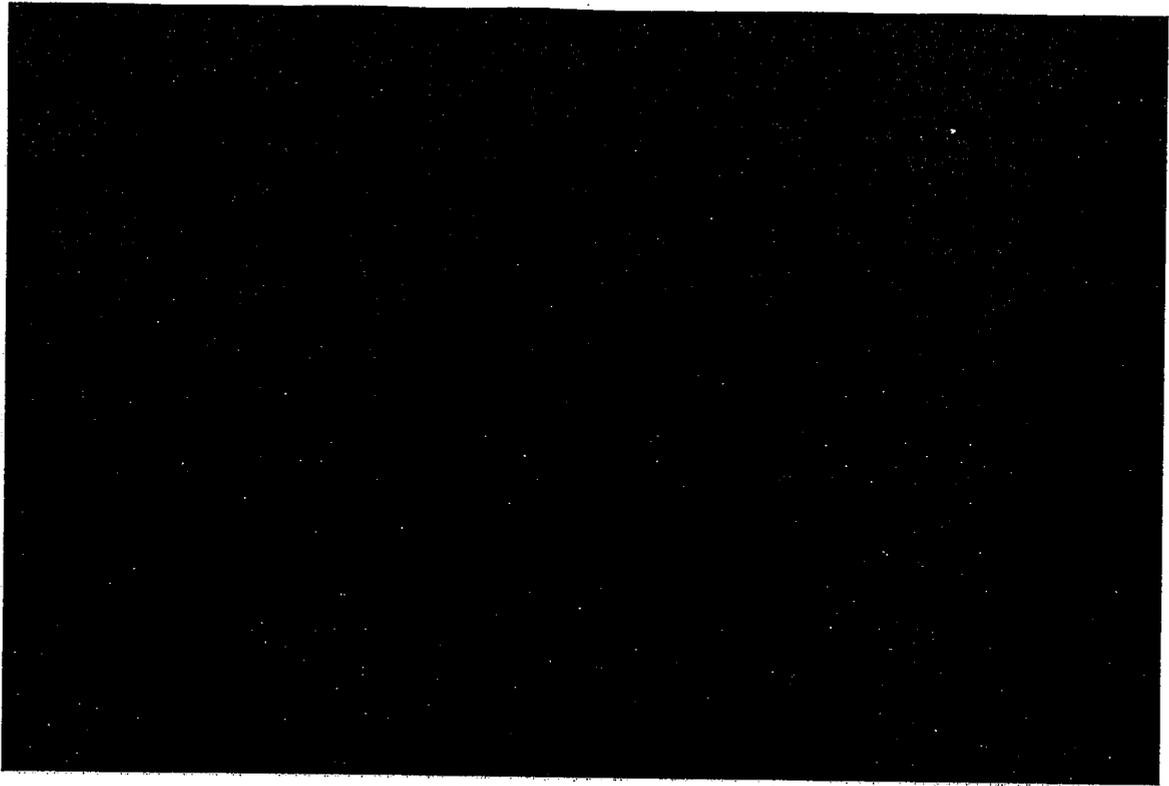
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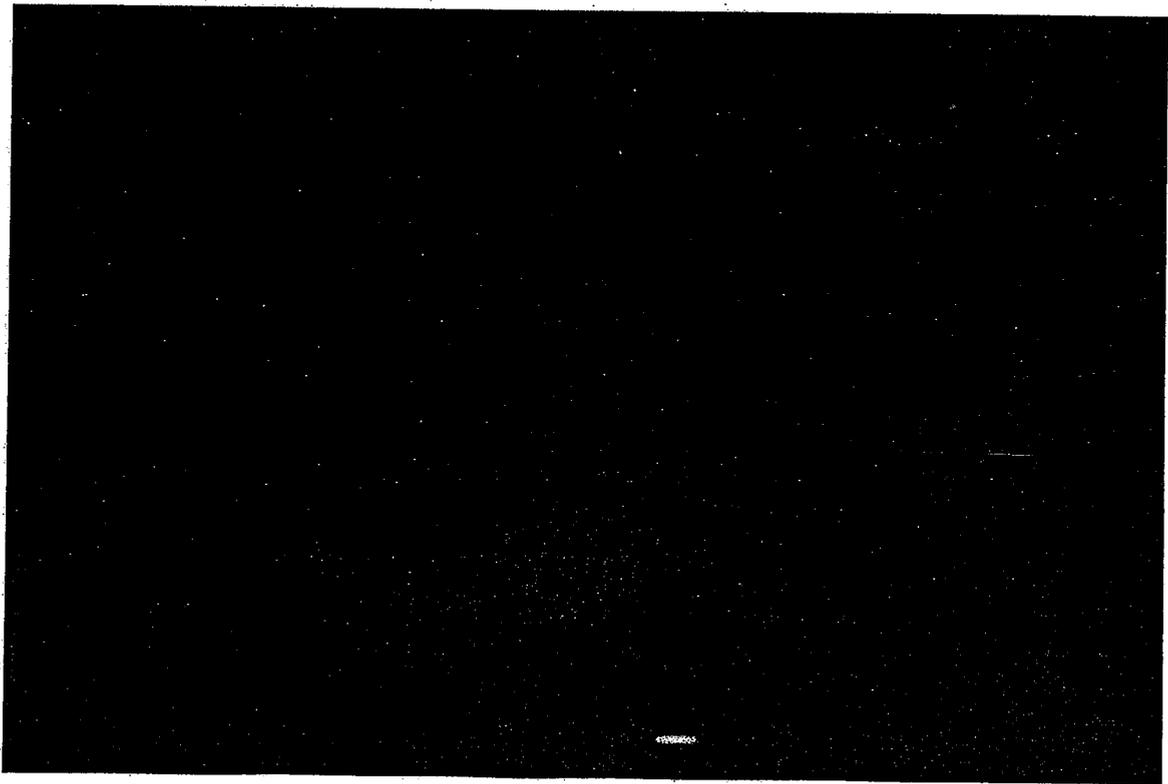
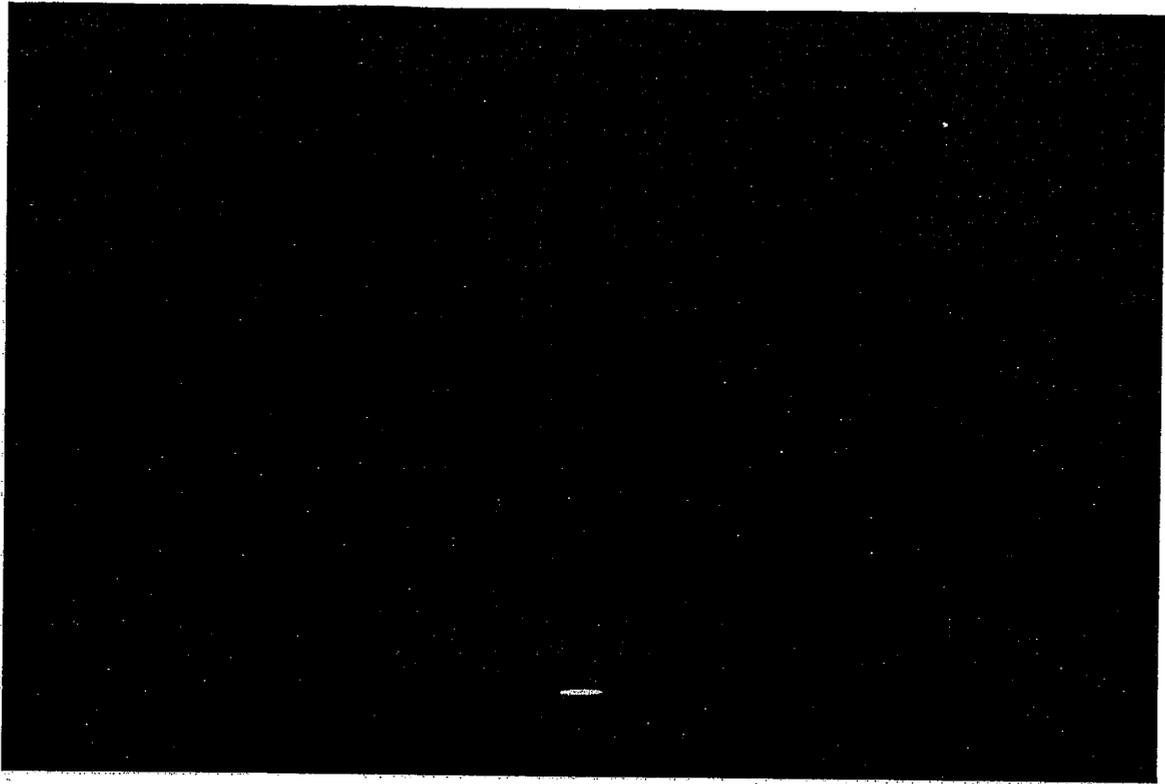
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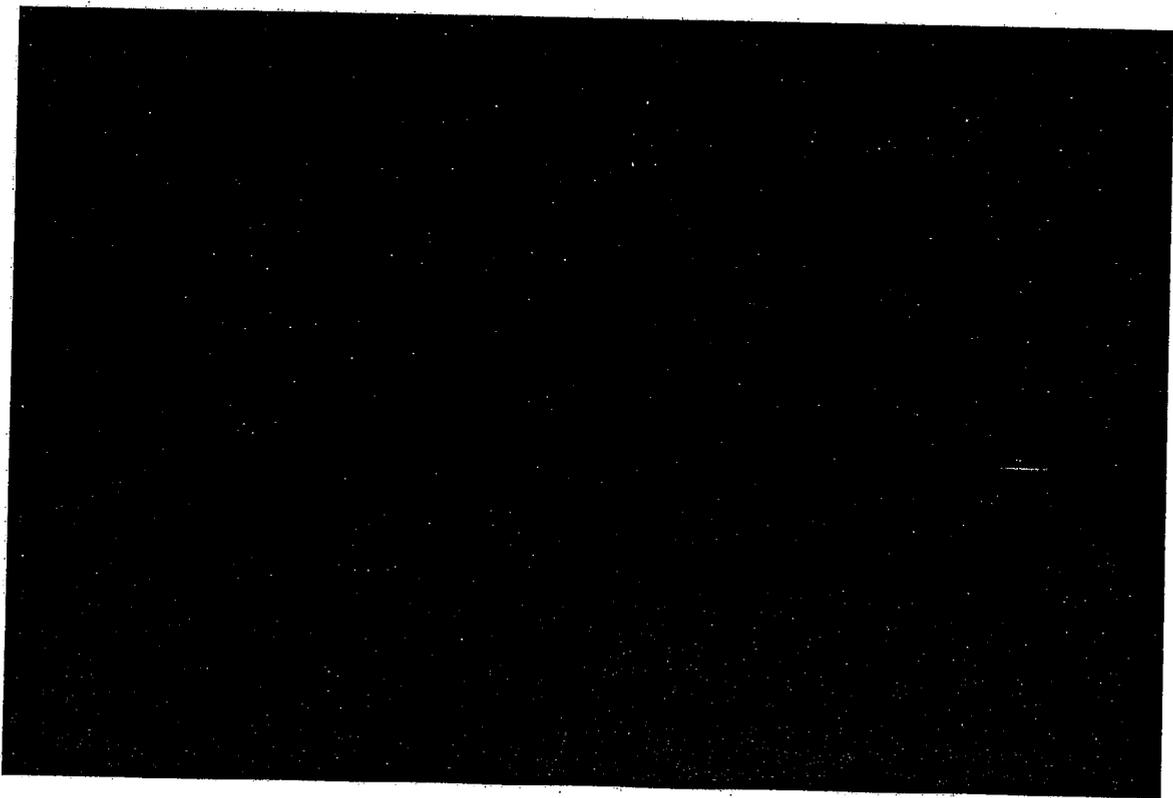
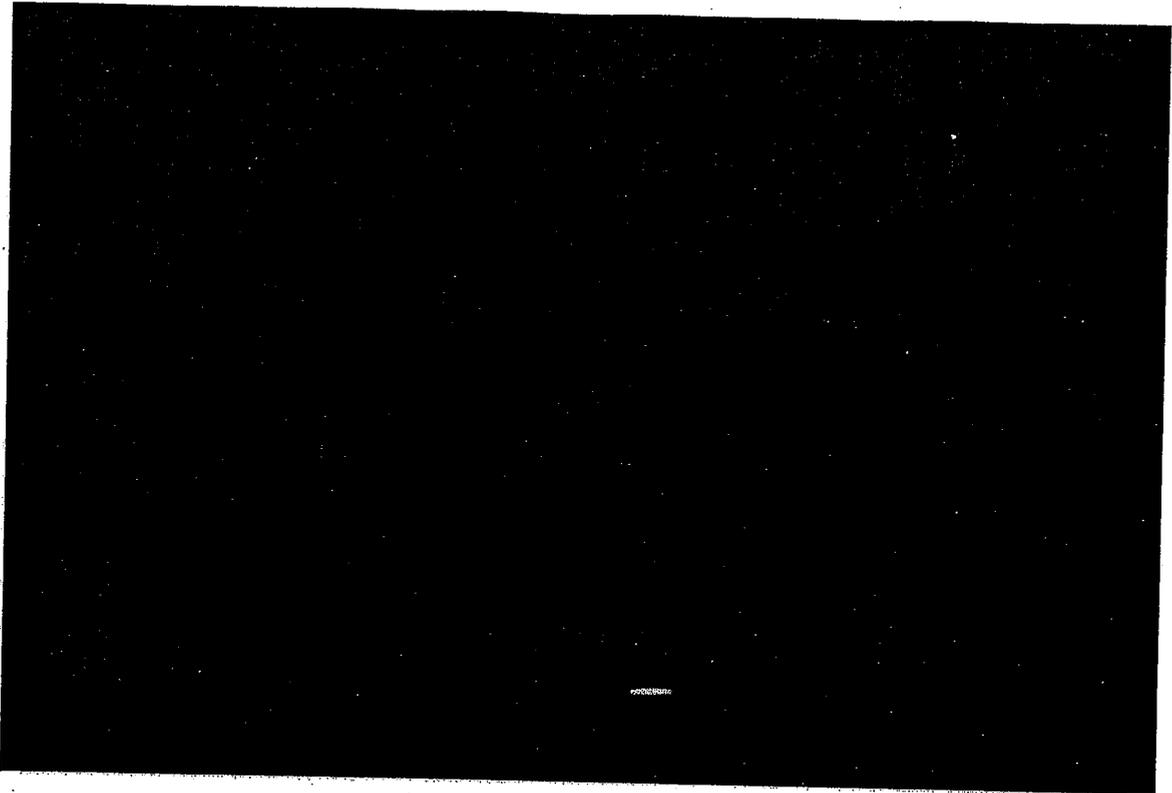
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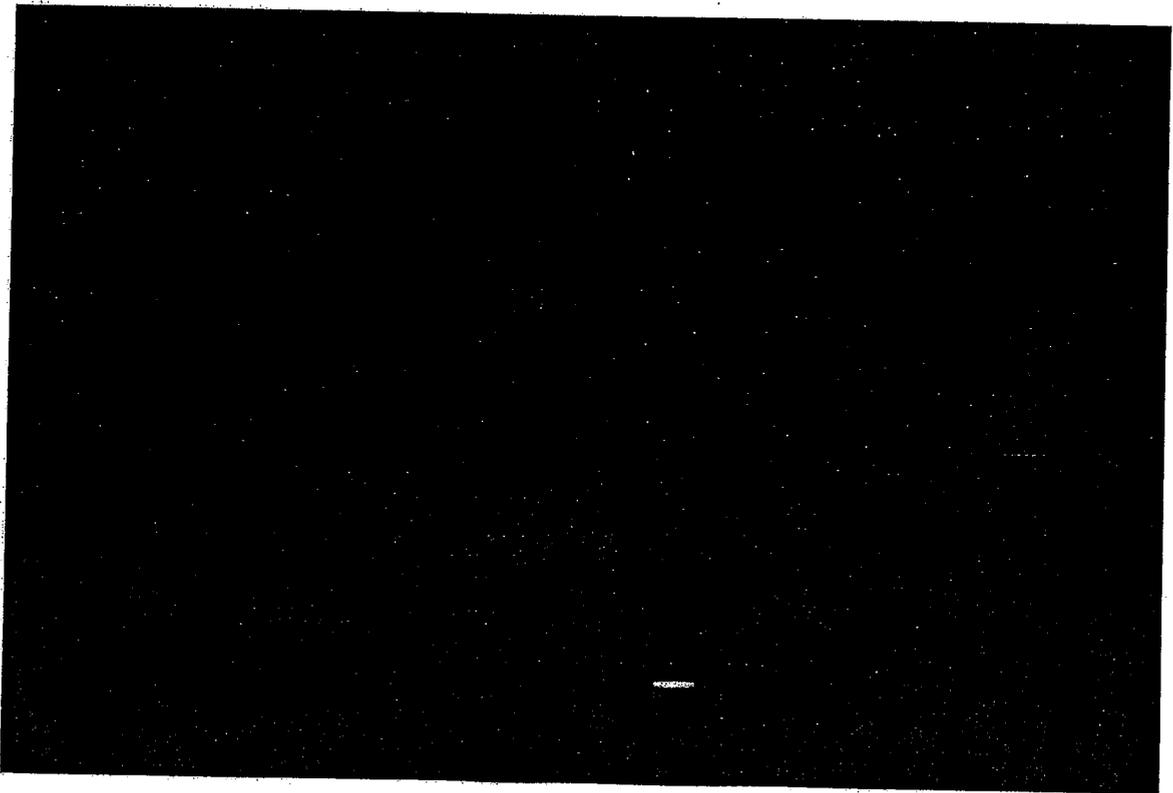
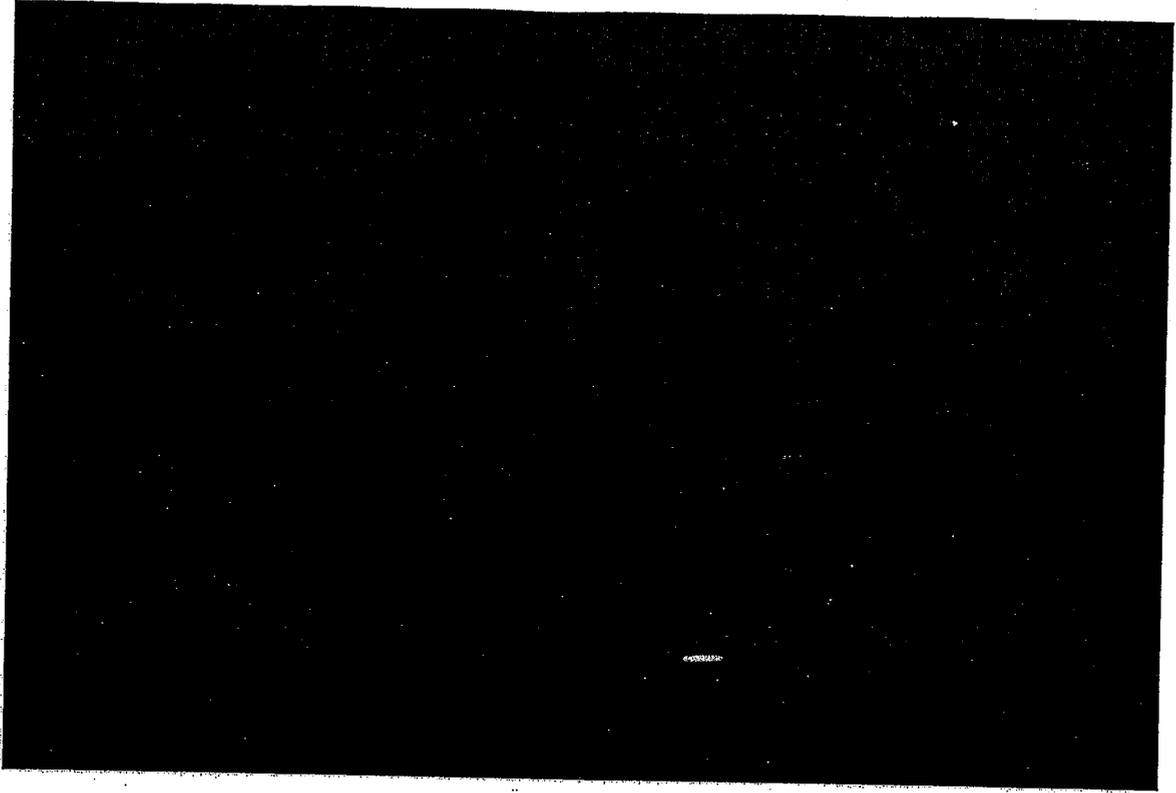
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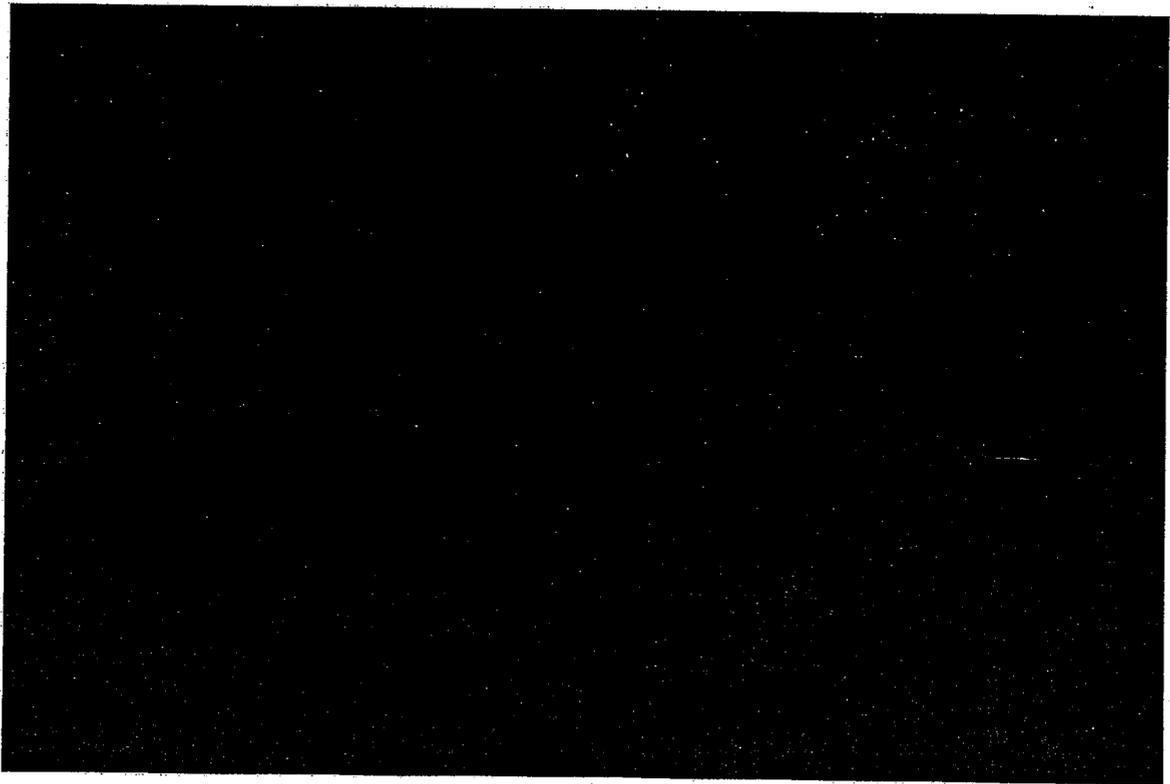
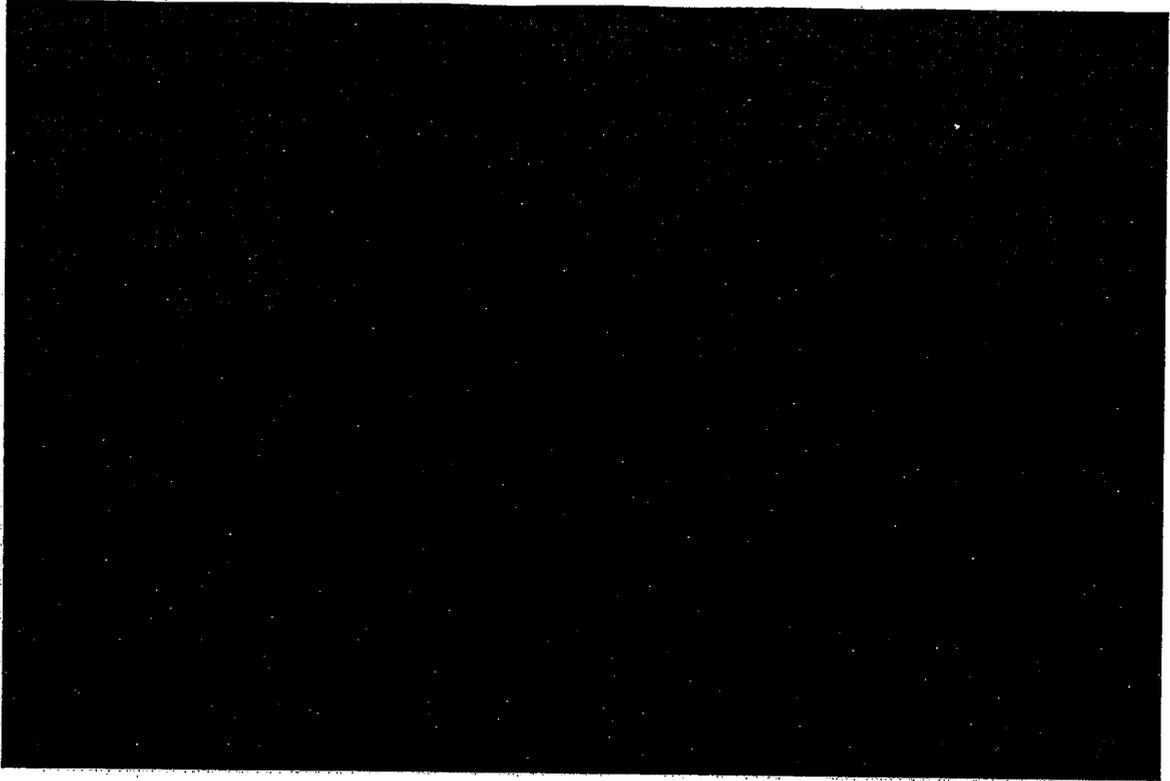


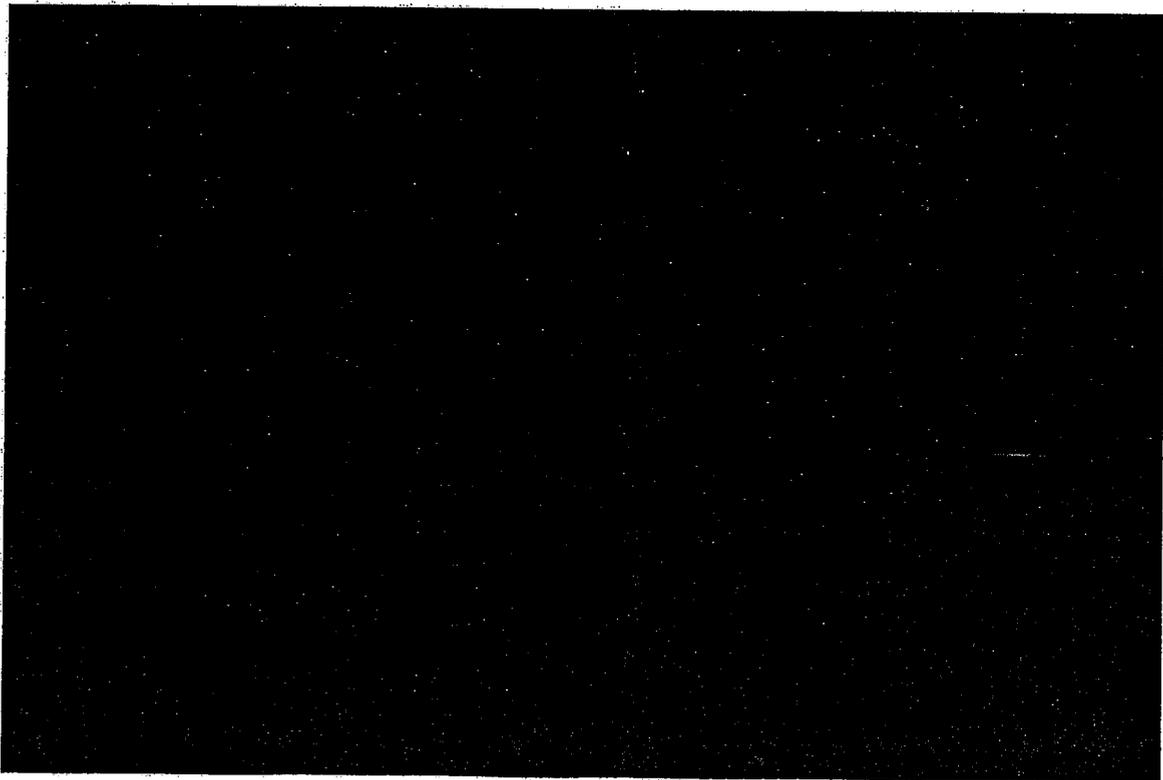
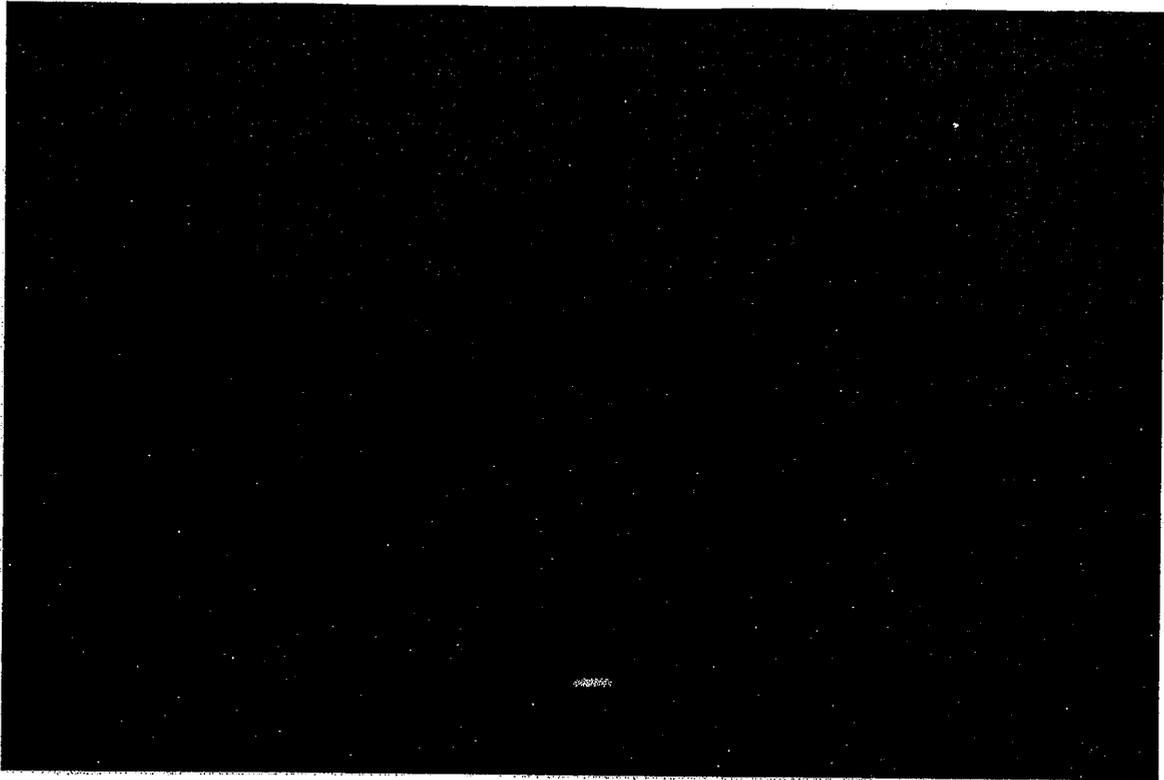


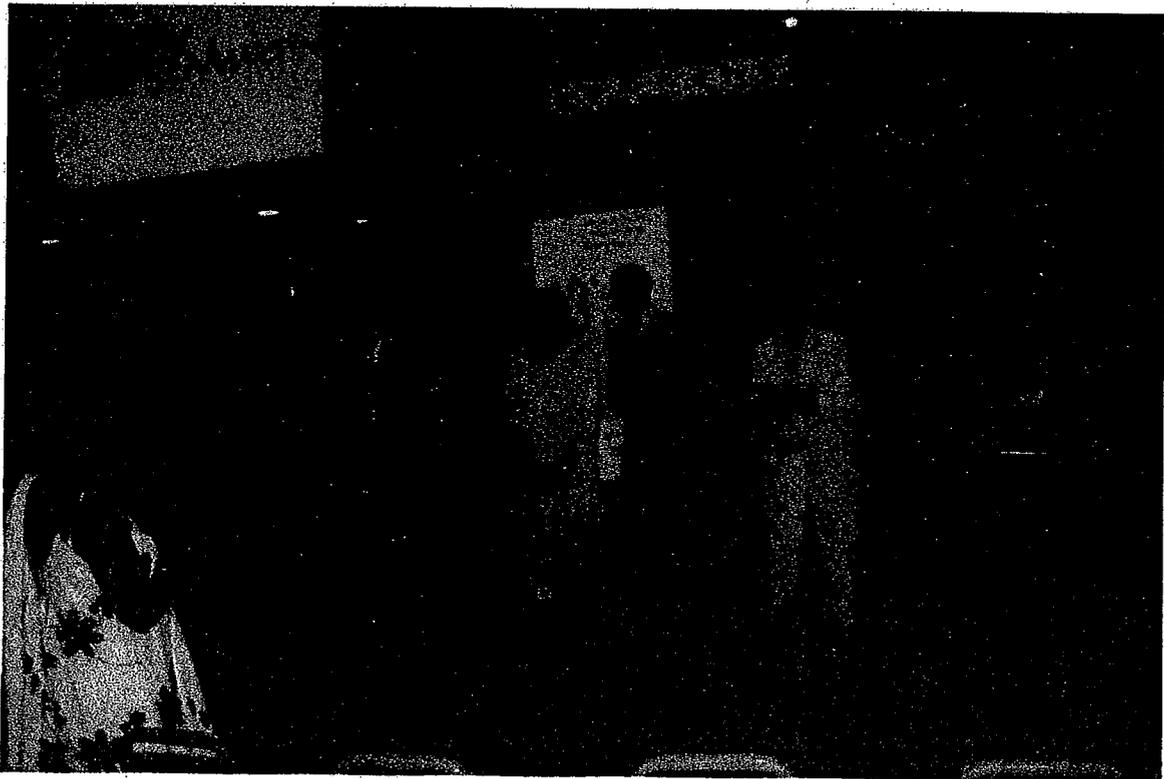
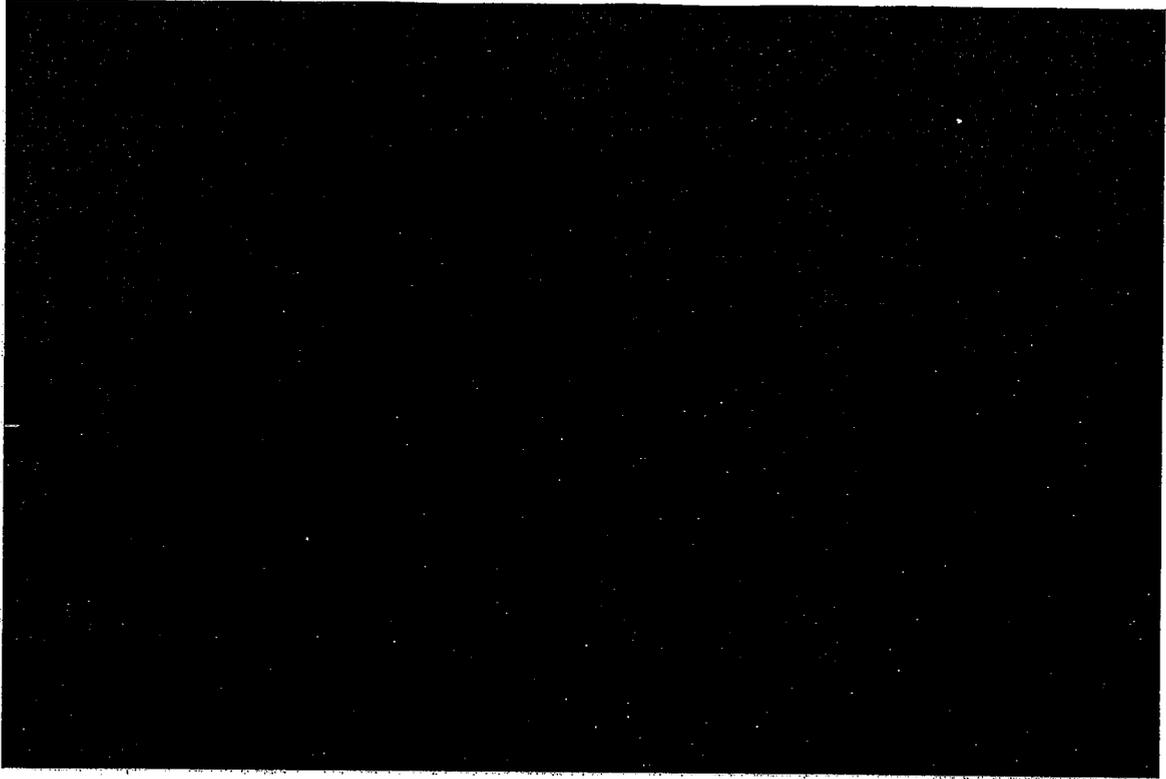












09-4403 0074

Exhibit 6

STROOCK

JOEL COHEN
DIRECT DIAL: 212-806-5644
DIRECT FAX: 212-806-2644
JCOHEN@STROOCK.COM

DANIELLE ALFONZO WALSMAN
DIRECT DIAL: 212-806-5607
DIRECT FAX: 212-806-2607
DWALSMAN@STROOCK.COM

May 18, 2009

BY EMAIL AND REGULAR MAIL

Mr. Leo Wise
Staff Director & Chief Counsel
Office of Congressional Ethics
United States House of Representatives
1017 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Request for Information, Review No. 09-2567

Dear Mr. Wise:

In response to your request for our clients' voluntary cooperation regarding your office's questions pertaining to the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (the "Conference"), we submit the following responses. Based upon our review of the questions and our multiple conversations with your office, we believe that these responses contain the information that you are seeking. As with our previous production, to the extent that the Freedom of Information Act is applicable to any submissions made to the Office of Congressional Ethics, our clients hereby request that the information provided be treated confidentially.

The Host country participated in the Conference as follows: (1) developed local Host Committees to facilitate local planning, (2) helped to negotiate the rate with the hotel, (3) assisted in developing the theme of the Conference, (4) assisted in identifying local speakers, including the Leader of Government, (5) assisted in local publicity, (6) provided local entertainment, including a school choir and cultural items, (7) arranged Host Country Evening on Friday, November 8 (the group was transported to another property for refreshments and entertainment), (8) helped with local transportation for some Carib News employees and helped arrange accommodations for some guests (not paying for such accommodations), (9) participated

09-4403 0076

Leo Wise, Esq.
May 18, 2009
Page 2

as event Speakers, and (10) issued invitations to attend to specially invited guests. The Host Country provided no funds towards the cost of the Conference.

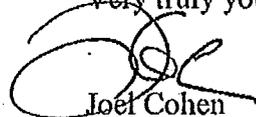
The cost for members of the public to attend the conference for the four days and three nights was \$840.00 for double occupancy or \$1085.00 for single occupancy. The cost of attendance covered room accommodations, meals, and admission to the Conference presentations.

The attending Members of Congress participated in sessions relevant to their Committee assignments in Congress and demonstrated interest in a particular subject matter. For example, Congressman Bennie Thompson spoke at presentations on Hemispheric Security and Immigration/ Deportees, Congresswoman Donna Christensen spoke at a Town Hall Forum on Health, and Congressman Charles Rangel spoke at presentations on Haiti and the Caribbean, and the current crises facing them. In addition, all of the Members of Congress participated in a session with the local Ministers of Government to discuss issues of interest to the Caribbean region. Though correspondence with the Members of Congress indicated that a memo of the Closed Door Session would be distributed after the Conference, no such memo was ever drafted or distributed.

The total cost of the Conference approached \$300,000. These costs included direct expenses such as travel, event planner fees, local staffing, and hotel payments, as well as Carib News operating expenses for the purpose of the preparation and implementation of the Conference. The Conference costs were paid using (1) registration fees by the attending guests, (2) contributions from corporate participants, some to Carib News and others to Carib News Foundation, and (3) general funds of Carib News. Each of three sources of funding was pooled together to pay the various expenses.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please do not hesitate to call.

Very truly yours,



Joel Cohen

and



Danielle Alfonzo Walsman

09-4403 0077

Exhibit 7

**AKIN GUMP
STRAUSS HAUER & FELD**
Always at Law

STEVEN R. ROSS
202.887.4343/fax: 202.887.4288
sross@akingump.com

March 31, 2009

Mr. Leo J. Wise
Staff Director and Chief Counsel
Office of Congressional Ethics
1017 Longworth Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Re: Citigroup, Inc. Production

Dear Leo:

On behalf of our client, Citigroup Inc., we are providing you with two documents in response to your oral request of March 17, 2009. Please find a copy of a solicitation letter to support the 2008 Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, dated April 4, 2008, from Carib News Foundation to our client. In addition, please find a copy of both the front and back of check number 5006611264, dated June 13, 2008, payable to Carib News Inc. in the amount of \$75,000.00. A search of our client's records has not uncovered any evidence of a receipt being provided for the above-mentioned check. We will produce this document should it be identified.

The documents we are producing today are confidential and proprietary in nature, and have been marked accordingly. We ask that these documents be kept confidential by your Office and your staff. Notwithstanding our request that these documents be kept confidential, due to their sensitivity, we ask that your office or staff provide us with notice and an opportunity to be heard before disclosure of any information from these documents to any third parties.

In addition, we are providing you with an original signed document of Michael Flanagan dated March 23, 2009, acknowledging the False Statements Act.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Ross

09-4403 0079

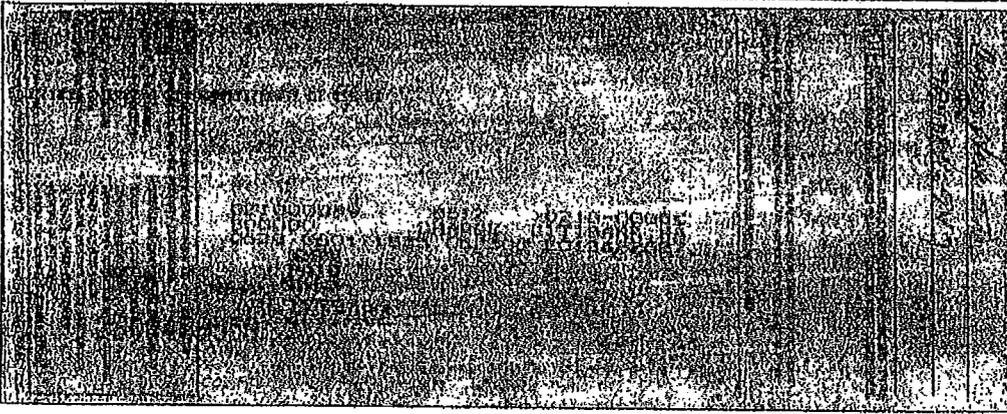


Citi Check Image Delivery

- Print
- Close Window
- Check Image Inquiry Results

Account #	Check #	Amount	Paid Date
00000038853877	5006611264	\$75,000.00	06/24/2008

	CITIGROUP BUSINESS SERVICES PAYMENT SERVICES 3000 CITIBANK CENTER DR. G-3-1 TAMPA, FL 33610 CUSTOMER SERVICE (813) 601-1231	02-20 311	No. 5006611264 Date: 13-JUN-2008 Vendor No. 295513
	PAY TO THE ORDER OF CARIB NEWS INC 5150171835 07 062308. CHARGE 7 WEST 36TH STREET 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK NY 10010		
SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS			
<small>CITIBANK DELAWARE, A SUBSIDIARY OF CITIGROUP ONE PENNS WAY, NEWCASTLE, DE 19720</small>			
⑈ 5006611264 ⑈ ⑆ 036600204 ⑆ 38853877 ⑈ ⑈ 000750000 ⑈			





Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991: Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

April 04, 2008

Mr. Eric Eve
Senior Vice President
Community Relations
Global Consumer Group
Citigroup Inc.
850 Third Avenue, 12th floor
New York, NY 10022

Dear Mr. Eve: *Eric*

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

Your support and that of *CITI* went a long way to make the Conference a success, and has fostered on-going growth in business achievements and impactful policy decisions. We appreciate your encouragement, your personal participation, and the very stature your presence brings to the Conference. We do get concrete results and expressed appreciation of new opportunities.

We can assure you that all the key stakeholders, Members of Congress, Heads and Ministers of Government, Elected Officials, Community and Business Leaders are all aware and appreciative of yours and *CITI'S* participation in this very important mission.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. We know of your interest to deepen the *CITI* local, regional and global connections, and I know the Conference can achieve that. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

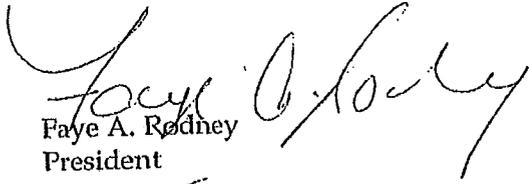
09-4403 0081

We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail.
I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO



OPENING THE REGION

INVESTMENT & BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BUILDING THE GLOBAL NETWORK

**GOVERNMENT LEADERS - ELECTED OFFICIALS
IMPACTING ECONOMIC POLICIES**

PARTNERSHIPS

**CORPORATE EXECUTIVES - SEEKING
EXPANSION & GROWTH**

**DOING BUSINESS
TOGETHER**



“IMPACTFUL”

EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF THE



THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CARIBBEAN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

ST. MAARTEN
NOVEMBER 6 - 9, 2008

BUILDING KEY CONNECTIONS FOR GROWTH



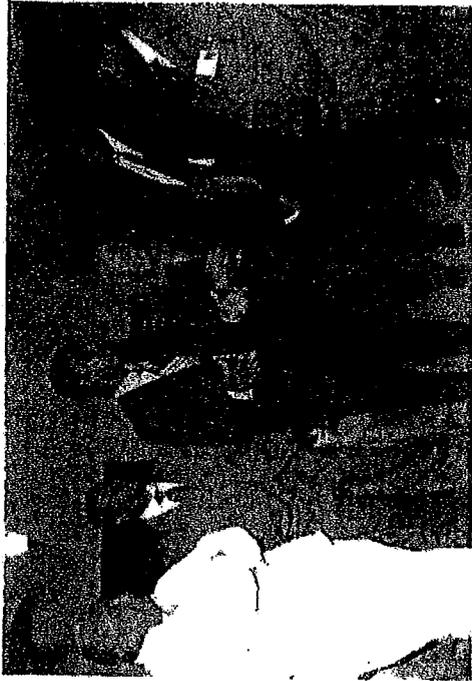
THE MISSION

- ◆ To bring together businesses, community, and government leaders interested in understanding the economic opportunities in the Caribbean marketplace locally and in the Caribbean.
- ◆ To make a global community among Diverse Business entities and The Caribbean.
- ◆ To Link the emerging markets of the U.S and the Developing Economics of the Caribbean and Latin America.



THE OPPORTUNITY

- ◆ **Marketing:** Understanding the market in the US and the Caribbean.
- ◆ **Business development:** Meeting potential customers and potential partners.
- ◆ **Strategic analysis:** Understanding the possibilities of emerging markets in the US and the Caribbean.
- ◆ **Corporate image:** Demonstrating your commitment to the Caribbean Community, and the program of diversity.
- ◆ **Community relations:** Establishing lasting relationships with key community leaders.
- ◆ **Government relations:** Meeting with and discussing topics of interest with significant elected officials from the US & the Caribbean.



STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

- ◆ Corporate
 - ◆ Government
 - ◆ Economic
 - ◆ Civic
 - ◆ Entrepreneurs
- 
- ◆ Products/Services Showcase/Public affairs
 - ◆ Developing new business opportunities
 - ◆ Fostering business partnerships
 - ◆ Building Global Communities
 - ◆ Creating Global Alliances to expand customer base



THE LEGACY

- ✦ Jamaica - 1996
- ✦ Barbados - 1997
- ✦ St. Lucia - 1998
- ✦ St. Croix/USVI - 1999
- ✦ Jamaica - 2000
- ✦ Grenada - 2001
- ✦ St. Maarten - 2002
- ✦ The Bahamas-2003
- ✦ St. Kitts-Nevis-2004
- ✦ ST. Thomas, USVI - 2005
- ✦ Panama city, panama - 2006
- ✦ Antigua & Barbuda - 2007

- ✦ Building Consumers Awareness
- ✦ Developing Working Alliances
- ✦ Reaching Defined Target Markets
- ✦ Making the Right Connections
- ✦ Expanding Diverse Market Places
- ✦ Successful Joint/Ventures
- ✦ Successful Regional Investments



INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES

THE OVERVIEW

"Some companies have discovered that the Caribbean offers a great deal more than beautiful beaches and sunshine. They have recognized its tactical importance in this era of globalization. We are proud to provide a useful platform for companies that are seeking to sharpen their international competitiveness.

For the past twelve years, the Annual Multinational Business Conference has been creating links between the Caribbean, Central America and the U.S. Usually, during four days of workshops, luncheons and dinners, Caribbean Political Heads of State and Ministers of Government, Members of the Congressional Black Caucus, Local and Regional Politicians, business persons and influential individuals from the U.S. and the Caribbean discuss, interact and network around issues of mutual concern. Relationships are built and business deals are made.

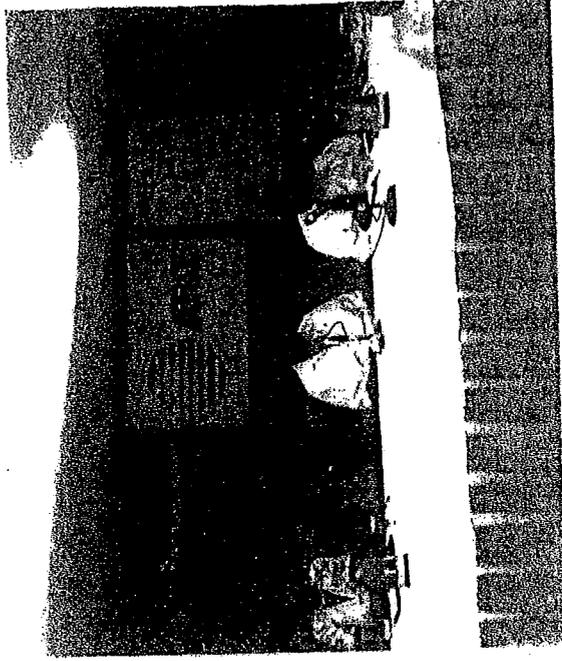
We hope that in 2008 you will join us"



PARTICIPATION

Platinum LEVEL - \$75,000

- ❖ Keynote Speaker at Main Event
- ❖ Sponsor Private VIP Reception and specially arranged forum
- ❖ Special Awards Presentation
- ❖ Display, Exhibition and signage
- ❖ Area of Conference -Reserved for exclusive sponsorship
- ❖ Full page Ad in program
- ❖ Air Transportation for 2 people
- ❖ Accommodations: One Suite and One Standard Room
- ❖ Included in all printed materials
- ❖ Included in Internet promotion
- ❖ Display company logo and link to our website
- ❖ Sponsor of a Gala Event
- ❖ Sponsor and Participate in a workshop
- ❖ Representative listed in program with bio and photo



PARTICIPATION

GOLD LEVEL - \$50,000

- ◆ Sponsor a Workshop
- ◆ Sponsor a Gala Event
- ◆ Display, Exhibition and signage
- ◆ Included in all Printed Material
- ◆ Included in all Internet Promotion
- ◆ Display of Company Logo and Link to Our Website
- ◆ Full Page Ad in Program
- ◆ Representation in the Brochure
- ◆ Air Transportation & room accommodations for 1



PARTICIPATION

SILVER LEVEL - \$25,000

- ◆ Sponsor & Participate in a Workshop
- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in all printed materials
- ◆ Included in Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Sponsor an event i.e. breakfast, lunch or dinner
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in program with bio & photos
- ◆ Representatives listed in brochure



PARTICIPATION

SUPPORTER

\$15,000

- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in all printed materials
- ◆ Included in Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in brochure
- ◆ Representatives listed in program with bio & photo

\$10,000

- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in some printed materials
- ◆ Included in some Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and 1/2 page in recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in program



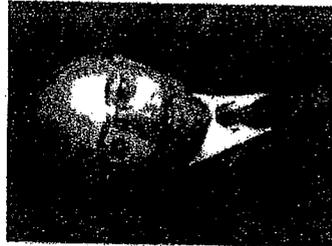
Government Participation



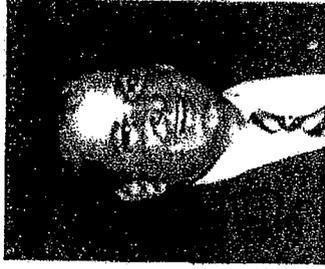
"This Conference is keeping us informed. There would never have been a banana problem had we (CBC) known about the issue before it went to the WTO."
Congressman Charles Rangel



"The Conference in Antigua with Members of the U.S. Congress was very important and extremely vital to both the U.S. and Caribbean interests. It highlighted the need for the Caribbean to pay greater attention to the role of Congress in the formulation of U.S. policy".
*Hon. Baldwin Spencer
Prime Minister of Antigua*



"The conference is central to the promotion of our mutual interests in the U.S. in general, New York City in particular, and the Caribbean. It is essential for all of us to work together to spur economic growth and social expansion at home and in our neighborhoods."
*William Thompson, Comptroller,
New York City*

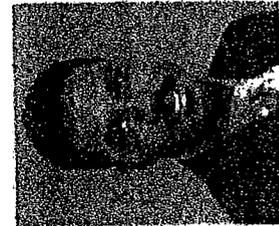


"The results of the Conference went far beyond our expectations. The process of bringing families together, of sharing a vision for our countries, couldn't have been scripted. The sessions brought out ideas, options and other benefits which should be long lasting".
*Juan Carlos Navarro, Mayor, Panama
City, Republic of Panama*

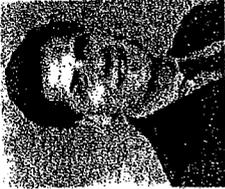


CORPORATE PARTICIPANTS

Eric Eve - SVP Community Relations, CITIGROUP. "The time is ripe for Caribbean nations to come together and get on "the road," to articulate the strength of their economies and stability of their business climates. The Conference is a great place to start to open clear lines of communication between the private and public sectors of the Caribbean and the U.S."



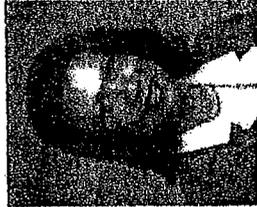
Edward J. Goldberg, SVP Government & Consumer Affairs, MACY'S. - "We have whole files of opportunities to build business partnerships in the current corporate environment. The conference is conducive to exploring new areas of business, and we have taken advantage of this to both the region and MACY's benefit."



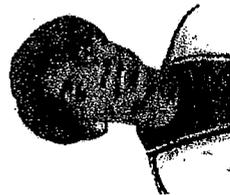
Marilyn Johnson, VP Market Development, IBM Corporation - "IBM and its partner ENI Enterprise Network, through its presentation at the Conference, is taking the audience up through levels of technology, understanding the application of E-commerce. This conference makes a difference in the lives of the attendees."



Marie Long, VP Constituency Relations, AT&T Foundation - "As many of you know, AT&T has changed in the last 5 years. Its growth, dynamism and change have created what some of us call the new AT&T. The real and driving force behind our success as a corporate entity is the culture of inclusion and collaboration. We recognize the great work being done at the conference to improve business and personal lives, exchange ideas, and assist alternative strategies that could lead to technology transfer and to growth."



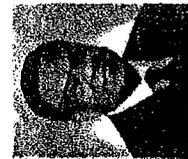
Karen Boykin-Iowns, Senior Director of Public Affairs. - "The conference provides an ideal opportunity for Pfizer - it demonstrates its commitment to health forums internationally, but also to network with key decision makers. Collaboration is necessary between the Caribbean to make improvements and adjustments to healthcare and its delivery."



Javier Evans, FVP Human Resources, HSBC Bank - "We provide financial services to a vast array of businesses and individuals, and this gives us a unique perspective on different cultures and ways of doing business. We want to engage our partners in mutually beneficial relationships within our communities and that is why we seize the opportunity to link with CARIB NEWS and the Conference. It is a tremendous value to us."

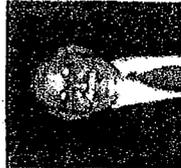


UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES



Ambassador Andrew Young

"If only the sons and daughters of Africa will remember from whence they came, then our roots should be a constant reminder of who we are and where our countries can go with our input. This is why the Carib News Conference is so important and that is why I support it."



Hon. Percy Sutton

"We badly needed a forum to address the need of us working together. This conference is an excellent idea and we should have been doing this long ago."



Hazel N. Dukes, President, New York State NAACP

"The conferences, presenters and participants have been extraordinary. I have gained tremendous knowledge on the Caribbean Diaspora. I continue to promote and foster relationships with communities here and at home"



Harry Belafonte, Entertainer

"The Conference is like a table set with a feast of great ideas provided by some of the best minds. The table is set - it is for us to partake"



David Dunkins, Former Mayor of New York City

"Education is the very key for the development of our people. I have always held that position; that is why I am so pleased to participate in the Education Forum at the Conference. There is an eagerness on the part of the audience to know more about our system. The collaborative effort of CARIB NEWS and the Conference wins my support".

collaborative effort of CARIB NEWS and the Conference wins my support".



Roy Hastick, President/CEO Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce

"The work of the Conference is legendary in the Caribbean and the U.S. Where else do you find this level of leadership from all sectors coming together to advance doing business. It is the most effective way of building a Global Network".



Susan Taylor, Editor Emeritus, Essence Magazine

"It is always so wonderful to experience the drive, enthusiasm and determination of the Conference participants. It says something wonderful is happening and we all need to tap into it. It provides such outstanding opportunities to connect with real people who can make things happen".



Lloyd Williams, President/CEO Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce

"I have always advocated cross-border business opportunities for the Chamber members, and that is why for the entire twelve years of the conference, the Chamber has made it a priority event. Our members have reaped the benefits and have also made great contributions".



INVEST IN SUCCESSES



A WEEK-END THAT CHANGES LIVES

'EXPERIENCE THE POWER'



Exhibit 8

Board
David Skaggs, Chair Porter Goss, Co-Chair
Yvonne Burke Jay Eagen
Karan English William Frenzel
Allison Hayward Abner Mikva



Leo J. Wise, Staff Director & Chief Counsel
1017 Longworth House Office Building
(202) 225-9739
(202) 226-0997 fax
email address: oce@mail.house.gov
website address: oce.house.gov

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

Mr. Frank Weber
Internal Revenue Service
Freedom of Information Reading Room
1111 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20224

March 31, 2009

Dear Mr. Weber,

Thank you for talking with me this afternoon and for offering to help me with this request. I need to know if Carib News Charities filed a 990-PF for tax years 2006, 2007, and 2008 (I have included tax year 2008 in the event that the foundation filed before the filing deadline). I understand that the organization is not required to file if it did not receive donations in excess of \$25,000. If the foundation has filed a 990-PF for 2006, 2007, or 2008, we would like to have a copy of the tax form(s). In the event that it takes several days, weeks, or months to receive the requested copies, it would be helpful to have an answer to the question whether the organization has filed and for what year(s) tax form(s) exist.

It is our understanding that the organization also does business as Carib News Foundation; however, Carib News Foundation is not found in Publication 78.

My telephone number is 202-225-9739 and my email is Elizabeth.horton@mail.house.gov. Thank you again for your help with this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Elizabeth Horton".

Elizabeth Horton

Request for Public Inspection or Copy of Exempt or Political Organization IRS Form

▶ Type or print clearly. Request may be rejected if the form is incomplete or illegible.

TIP You may not have to complete Form 4506-A to get the copies you need.

- **Internet.** Form 8871, Political Organization Notice of Section 527 Status, and Form 8872, Political Organization Report of Contributions and Expenditures, are available for inspection and printing from the Internet. The website address for both forms is www.irs.gov/polorgs.
- **Public disclosure by the organization.** Exempt or political organizations must make their returns, reports, notices, and exempt applications available for public inspection. You can visit the organization to inspect the material instead of requesting it from the IRS. The organization may be able to mail the copies to you.

1 Exempt or political organization. If a multiple request, please attach list of names, forms, and tax years.

Name CARIB NEWS CHARITIES	Employer identification number (if known) 13 : 3632050
Address 7 WEST 36th STREET, FLOOR 8	
City or town, state, and ZIP code NEW YORK, NY 10018	

2 Requester

Name OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS	Contact person ELIZABETH HORTON
Address 1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING	Phone (202) 225-9739
City or town, state, and ZIP code WASHINGTON, DC 20515	Date 3/31/09

- 3 Category of requester:** Commercial user Non-commercial scientific institution
 You must check a box. Educational institution Media All others

4 Reason for request. All requesters except for commercial users must provide an explanation of how the records will be used to avoid being charged the commercial rate. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

**TO CONFIRM WHETHER FOUNDATION RECEIVED FUNDING IN
TAX YEARS 2006, 2007, 2008**

Lines 5-9. For each applicable form, check the box(es) for the item(s) you are requesting. You may request more than one form. For each form requested, check either the copy, inspection, or CD/DVD box and enter the specific tax year(s), as indicated. If ordering a partial set on CD/DVD, indicate the format, state(s), and month(s) requested.

5 Form 990, Form 990-EZ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copy <input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Tax year(s) requested: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> CD/DVD Format: <input type="checkbox"/> Alchemy <input type="checkbox"/> Raw State(s): _____; _____; _____ Months: _____; _____; _____
6 Form 990-PF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copy <input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Tax year(s) requested: 2006, 2007; 2008 (if filed)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD/DVD Format: <input type="checkbox"/> Alchemy <input type="checkbox"/> Raw State(s): _____; _____; _____ Months: _____; _____; _____
7 Form 990-T (501(c)(3) organizations filed after 8/17/2006) <input type="checkbox"/> Copy <input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Tax year(s) requested: _____; _____; _____	<input type="checkbox"/> CD/DVD Format: <input type="checkbox"/> Alchemy <input type="checkbox"/> Raw State(s): _____; _____; _____ Months: _____; _____; _____
8 Form 5227 <input type="checkbox"/> Copy <input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Tax year(s) requested: _____; _____; _____	9 Form 1023, 1024 or Determination Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Copy <input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Tax year(s) requested: _____; _____; _____

IRS Use Only

The form requested above was inspected by (name of requester)	IRS office where inspection was made
Signature of employee present at inspection	Date

OGDEN UT 84201-0058

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
ATTN: ELIZABETH HORTON
1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515

CUT OUT AND RETURN THE VOUCHER AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE IF YOU ARE MAKING A PAYMENT,
EVEN IF YOU ALSO HAVE AN INQUIRY.

The IRS address must appear in the window:

BODCD-TE

0412606945

Use for payments

Letter Number: LTR3983C
Letter Date : 2009-04-17
Tax Period : 000000



133632050

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

OGDEN UT 84201-0058



OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
ATTN: ELIZABETH HORTON
1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515

133632050 RV CARI 00 2 000000 670 000000000000

09-4403 0102

OGDEN UT 84201-0058

In reply refer to: 0412606945
Apr. 17, 2009 LTR 3983C E1
13-3632050 000000 00 000
00027842
BODC: TE

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
ATTN: ELIZABETH HORTON
1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515

Taxpayer Identification Number: 13-3632050
Organization: Carib News Charities, Inc.

Form(s): 990PF

Tax Period(s): May 31, 2006 May 31, 2007
May 31, 2008

Dear Requester:

We received your Mar. 31, 2009, request for a copy of the Form(s) 990PF relating to the organization(s) identified above. Enclosed is a copy of the form(s) you requested. We are unable to provide a copy of the form(s) requested for the following tax period(s):

May 31, 2006

We regret that we can not provide a photocopy of return(s) for the organization(s) and year(s) you requested. There are a variety of reasons why these returns are not available, for example:

- the organization may not be required to file the requested return because its gross receipts are \$25,000 or less.
- the organization may be included in a group ruling and the parent may have filed a group return.
- the organization may have received an extension of time to file.
- processing of the organization's return may not be complete.
- return(s) are destroyed after a certain number of tax years.
- the organization may not be required to file.

If you have any questions, please write us at the address shown at the top of the first page of this letter. Or, you may call us toll free at 1-877-829-5500.

Whenever you write, please include this letter and, in the spaces below, give us your telephone number with the hours we can reach you. Please keep a copy of this letter for your records.

Telephone Number () _____ Hours _____

Form **990-PF**

**Return of Private Foundation
or Section 4947(a)(1) Nonexempt Charitable Trust
Treated as a Private Foundation**

OMB No 1545-0052

2005

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Note: The organization may be able to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements

For calendar year 2005, or tax year beginning **June 1**, 2005, and ending **May 31**, 20 **06**

G Check all that apply. Initial return Final return Amended return Address change Name change

Use the IRS label. Otherwise, print or type. See Specific Instructions.

Name of organization: **Carib News Charities Inc**

Number and street (or P.O. box number if mail is not delivered to street address): **15 West 39th Street**

Room/suite: **13**

City or town, state, and ZIP code: **New York, NY 10018**

A Employer identification number: **13:3632050**

B Telephone number (see page 10 of the instructions): **()**

H Check type of organization: Section 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation
 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust Other taxable private foundation

I Fair market value of all assets at end of year (from Part II, col. (c), line 16) ▶ \$

J Accounting method: Cash Accrual
 Other (specify) _____
(Part I, column (d) must be on cash basis)

C If exemption application is pending, check here ▶

D 1. Foreign organizations, check here . . . ▶
2. Foreign organizations meeting the 85% test, check here and attach computation . . . ▶

E If private foundation status was terminated under section 507(b)(1)(A), check here . . . ▶

F If the foundation is in a 60-month termination under section 507(b)(1)(B), check here . . . ▶

Part I Analysis of Revenue and Expenses (The total of amounts in columns (b), (c), and (d) may not necessarily equal the amounts in column (a) (see page 11 of the instructions))

	(a) Revenue and expenses per books	(b) Net investment income	(c) Adjusted net income	(d) Disbursements for charitable purposes (cash basis only)
Revenue				
1 Contributions, gifts, grants, etc., received (attach schedule)	0			
2 Check <input type="checkbox"/> if the foundation is not required to attach Sch B				
3 Interest on savings and temporary cash investments				
4 Dividends and interest from securities				
5a Gross rents				
b Net rental income or (loss)				
6a Net gain or (loss) from sale of assets not on line 10				
b Gross sales price for all assets on line 6a				
7 Capital gain net income (from Part IV, line 2)				
8 Net short-term capital gain				
9 Income modifications				
10a Gross sales less returns and allowances				
b Less: Cost of goods sold				
c Gross profit or (loss) (attach schedule)				
11 Other income (attach schedule)				
12 Total. Add lines 1 through 11	100,697.2			
Operating and Administrative Expenses				
13 Compensation of officers, directors, trustees, etc				
14 Other employee salaries and wages				
15 Pension plans, employee benefits				
16a Legal fees (attach schedule)				
b Accounting fees (attach schedule)				
c Other professional fees (attach schedule)				
17 Interest				
18 Taxes (attach schedule) (see page 14 of the instructions)				
19 Depreciation (attach schedule) and depletion				
20 Occupancy				
21 Travel, conferences, and meetings				
22 Printing and publications				
23 Other expenses (attach schedule)				
24 Total operating and administrative expenses. Add lines 13 through 23				
25 Contributions, gifts, grants paid				
26 Total expenses and disbursements. Add lines 24 and 25				
27 Subtract line 26 from line 12:				
a Excess of revenue over expenses and disbursements	0			
b Net investment income (if negative, enter -0-)				
c Adjusted net income (if negative, enter -0-)				

RECEIVED IN CORR
IRS - OSC -645
AUG 27 2007
OGDEN, UTAH

09-4403 0104

For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions.

Cat No 11289X

Form 990-PF (2005)

61,13 12

access as orig

0423200432ncg 05 2007

SCANNED JAN 16 2008
Operating and Administrative Expenses

Part II Balance Sheets		Attached schedules and amounts in the description column should be for end-of-year amounts only (See instructions)		
		Beginning of year (a) Book Value	End of year (b) Book Value (c) Fair Market Value	
Assets	1	Cash—non-interest-bearing	0	0
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments		
	3	Accounts receivable		
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts		
	4	Pledges receivable		
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts		
	5	Grants receivable		
	6	Receivables due from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons (attach schedule) (see page 15 of the instructions)		
	7	Other notes and loans receivable (attach schedule)		
		Less allowance for doubtful accounts		
	8	Inventories for sale or use		
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges		
	10a	Investments—U S and state government obligations (attach schedule)		
	b	Investments—corporate stock (attach schedule)		
	c	Investments—corporate bonds (attach schedule)		
	11	Investments—land, buildings, and equipment basis		
	Less accumulated depreciation (attach schedule)			
12	Investments—mortgage loans			
13	Investments—other (attach schedule)			
14	Land, buildings, and equipment—basis			
	Less accumulated depreciation (attach schedule)			
15	Other assets (describe)			
16	Total assets (to be completed by all filers—see page 16 of the instructions Also, see page 1, item I)			
Liabilities	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses	0	0
	18	Grants payable		
	19	Deferred revenue		
	20	Loans from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons		
	21	Mortgages and other notes payable (attach schedule)		
	22	Other liabilities (describe)		
23	Total liabilities (add lines 17 through 22)			
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 24 through 26 and lines 30 and 31.			
	24	Unrestricted		
	25	Temporarily restricted		
	26	Permanently restricted		
	Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 31.			
	27	Capital stock, trust principal, or current funds		
	28	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, bldg., and equipment fund		
	29	Retained earnings, accumulated income, endowment, or other funds		
30	Total net assets or fund balances (see page 17 of the instructions)	0	0	
31	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances (see page 17 of the instructions)	0	0	

10260972

09-4403 0105

Part III Analysis of Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances

1	Total net assets or fund balances at beginning of year—Part II, column (a), line 30 (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return).	1	0
2	Enter amount from Part I, line 27a.	2	
3	Other increases not included in line 2 (itemize)	3	
4	Add lines 1, 2, and 3	4	
5	Decreases not included in line 2 (itemize)	5	
6	Total net assets or fund balances at end of year (line 4 minus line 5)—Part II, column (b), line 30	6	

Part IV Capital Gains and Losses for Tax on Investment Income

(a) List and describe the kind(s) of property sold (e.g., real estate, 2-story brick warehouse, or common stock, 200 shs MLC Co)		(b) How acquired P—Purchase D—Donation	(c) Date acquired (mo., day, yr.)	(d) Date sold (mo., day, yr.)
1a				
b				
c				
d				
e				
(e) Gross sales price	(f) Depreciation allowed (or allowable)	(g) Cost or other basis plus expense of sale	(h) Gain or (loss) (e) plus (f) minus (g)	
a				
b				
c				
d				
e				
Complete only for assets showing gain in column (h) and owned by the foundation on 12/31/69				
(i) FMV as of 12/31/69	(j) Adjusted basis as of 12/31/69	(k) Excess of col. (i) over col. (j), if any	(l) Gains (Col. (h) gain minus col. (k), but not less than -0-) or Losses (from col. (h))	
a				
b				
c				
d				
e				
2 Capital gain net income or (net capital loss)	{ If gain, also enter in Part I, line 12 If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 12 }			2
3 Net short-term capital gain or (loss) as defined in sections 1222(5) and (6). If gain, also enter in Part I, line 8, column (c) (see pages 13 and 17 of the instructions). If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 8	{ If gain, also enter in Part I, line 8, column (c) (see pages 13 and 17 of the instructions). If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 8 }			3

Part V Qualification Under Section 4940(e) for Reduced Tax on Net Investment Income

(For optional use by domestic private foundations subject to the section 4940(a) tax on net investment income.)

If section 4940(d)(2) applies, leave this part blank.

Was the organization liable for the section 4942 tax on the distributable amount of any year in the base period? Yes No
If "Yes," the organization does not qualify under section 4940(e). Do not complete this part

1 Enter the appropriate amount in each column for each year; see page 18 of the instructions before making any entries.

(a) Base period years Calendar year (or tax year beginning in)	(b) Adjusted qualifying distributions	(c) Net value of noncharitable-use assets	(d) Distribution ratio (col. (b) divided by col. (c))
2004			
2003			
2002			
2001			
2000			

2 Total of line 1, column (d)	2
3 Average distribution ratio for the 5-year base period—divide the total on line 2 by 5, or by the number of years the foundation has been in existence if less than 5 years	3
4 Enter the net value of noncharitable-use assets for 2005 from Part X, line 5	4
5 Multiply line 4 by line 3	5
6 Enter 1% of net investment income (1% of Part I, line 27b)	6
7 Add lines 5 and 6	7
8 Enter qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 If line 8 is equal to or greater than line 7, check the box in Part VI, line 1b, and complete that part using a 1% tax rate. See the Part VI instructions on page 18.	8

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Part VI Excise Tax Based on Investment Income (Section 4940(a), 4940(b), 4940(e), or 4948—see page 18 of the instructions)

1a	Exempt operating foundations described in section 4940(d)(2), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter "N/A" on line 1. Date of ruling letter: (attach copy of ruling letter if necessary—see instructions)			
b	Domestic organizations that meet the section 4940(e) requirements in Part V, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter 1% of Part I, line 27b.	1		
c	All other domestic organizations enter 2% of line 27b. Exempt foreign organizations enter 4% of Part I, line 12, col (b)			
2	Tax under section 511 (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-)	2		
3	Add lines 1 and 2.	3		
4	Subtitle A (income) tax (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-)	4		
5	Tax based on investment income. Subtract line 4 from line 3. If zero or less, enter -0-	5		
6	Credits/Payments.			
a	2005 estimated tax payments and 2004 overpayment credited to 2005	6a		
b	Exempt foreign organizations—tax withheld at source	6b		
c	Tax paid with application for extension of time to file (Form 8868)	6c		
d	Backup withholding erroneously withheld.	6d		
7	Total credits and payments. Add lines 6a through 6d.	7		
8	Enter any penalty for underpayment of estimated tax. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if Form 2220 is attached.	8		
9	Tax due. If the total of lines 5 and 8 is more than line 7, enter amount owed	9		
10	Overpayment. If line 7 is more than the total of lines 5 and 8, enter the amount overpaid.	10		
11	Enter the amount of line 10 to be: Credited to 2006 estimated tax <input type="checkbox"/> Refunded <input type="checkbox"/>	11		

Part VII-A Statements Regarding Activities

	Yes	No
1a		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1b		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1c		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4a		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4b		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8b		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

13 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-PF in lieu of Form 1041—Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year 13

Part VII-B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required

File Form 4720 if any item is checked in the "Yes" column, unless an exception applies.

	Yes	No
1a During the year did the organization (either directly or indirectly):		
(1) Engage in the sale or exchange, or leasing of property with a disqualified person? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(2) Borrow money from, lend money to, or otherwise extend credit to (or accept it from) a disqualified person? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(3) Furnish goods, services, or facilities to (or accept them from) a disqualified person? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(4) Pay compensation to, or pay or reimburse the expenses of, a disqualified person? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(5) Transfer any income or assets to a disqualified person (or make any of either available for the benefit or use of a disqualified person)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(6) Agree to pay money or property to a government official? (Exception. Check "No" if the organization agreed to make a grant to or to employ the official for a period after termination of government service, if terminating within 90 days.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
b If any answer is "Yes" to 1a(1)-(6), did any of the acts fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4941(d)-3 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see page 20 of the instructions)? Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance check here <input type="checkbox"/>	1b	X
c Did the organization engage in a prior year in any of the acts described in 1a, other than excepted acts, that were not corrected before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2005? <input type="checkbox"/>	1c	X
2 Taxes on failure to distribute income (section 4942) (does not apply for years the organization was a private operating foundation defined in section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5)):		
a At the end of tax year 2005, did the organization have any undistributed income (lines 6d and 6e, Part XIII) for tax year(s) beginning before 2005? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "Yes," list the years <input type="checkbox"/> 20....., 20....., 20....., 20.....		
b Are there any years listed in 2a for which the organization is not applying the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) (relating to incorrect valuation of assets) to the year's undistributed income? (If applying section 4942(a)(2) to all years listed, answer "No" and attach statement—see page 20 of the instructions.) <input type="checkbox"/>	2b	X
c If the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) are being applied to any of the years listed in 2a, list the years here. <input type="checkbox"/> 20....., 20....., 20....., 20.....		
3a Did the organization hold more than a 2% direct or indirect interest in any business enterprise at any time during the year? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
b If "Yes," did it have excess business holdings in 2005 as a result of (1) any purchase by the organization or disqualified persons after May 26, 1969; (2) the lapse of the 5-year period (or longer period approved by the Commissioner under section 4943(c)(7)) to dispose of holdings acquired by gift or bequest; or (3) the lapse of the 10-, 15-, or 20-year first phase holding period? (Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine if the organization had excess business holdings in 2005.) <input type="checkbox"/>	3b	X
4a Did the organization invest during the year any amount in a manner that would jeopardize its charitable purposes? <input type="checkbox"/>	4a	X
b Did the organization make any investment in a prior year (but after December 31, 1969) that could jeopardize its charitable purpose that had not been removed from jeopardy before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2005? <input type="checkbox"/>	4b	X
5a During the year did the organization pay or incur any amount to:		
(1) Carry on propaganda, or otherwise attempt to influence legislation (section 4945(e))? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(2) Influence the outcome of any specific public election (see section 4955); or to carry on, directly or indirectly, any voter registration drive? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(3) Provide a grant to an individual for travel, study, or other similar purposes? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(4) Provide a grant to an organization other than a charitable, etc., organization described in section 509(a)(1), (2), or (3), or section 4940(d)(2)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
(5) Provide for any purpose other than religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
b If any answer is "Yes" to 5a(1)-(5), did any of the transactions fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4945 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see page 20 of the instructions)? Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance check here <input type="checkbox"/>	5b	X
c If the answer is "Yes" to question 5a(4), does the organization claim exemption from the tax because it maintained expenditure responsibility for the grant? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "Yes," attach the statement required by Regulations section 53.4945-5(d).		
6a Did the organization, during the year, receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
b Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If you answered "Yes" to 6b, also file Form 8870	6b	X

Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors

1 List all officers, directors, trustees, foundation managers and their compensation (see page 21 of the instructions).

(a) Name and address	(b) Title, and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				

2 Compensation of five highest-paid employees (other than those included on line 1—see page 21 of the instructions). If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$50,000	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
NONE				
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				

Total number of other employees paid over \$50,000. ▶

3 Five highest-paid independent contractors for professional services—(see page 21 of the instructions). If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each person paid more than \$50,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
NONE		
.....		
.....		
.....		
.....		
.....		

Total number of others receiving over \$50,000 for professional services ▶

Part IX-A Summary of Direct Charitable Activities

List the foundation's four largest direct charitable activities during the tax year. Include relevant statistical information such as the number of organizations and other beneficiaries served, conferences convened, research papers produced, etc.	Expenses
1 None	
2	
3	
4	

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Part IX-B Summary of Program-Related Investments (see page 22 of the instructions)

Describe the two largest program-related investments made by the foundation during the tax year on lines 1 and 2		Amount
1	
2	
All other program-related investments See page 22 of the instructions		
3	
Total. Add lines 1 through 3		

Part X Minimum Investment Return (All domestic foundations must complete this part. Foreign foundations, see page 22 of the instructions.)

1	Fair market value of assets not used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes:	
a	Average monthly fair market value of securities	1a
b	Average of monthly cash balances	1b
c	Fair market value of all other assets (see page 23 of the instructions)	1c
d	Total (add lines 1a, b, and c)	1d
e	Reduction claimed for blockage or other factors reported on lines 1a and 1c (attach detailed explanation)	1e
2	Acquisition indebtedness applicable to line 1 assets	2
3	Subtract line 2 from line 1d	3
4	Cash deemed held for charitable activities. Enter 1½% of line 3 (for greater amount, see page 23 of the instructions)	4
5	Net value of noncharitable-use assets. Subtract line 4 from line 3. Enter here and on Part V, line 4	5
6	Minimum investment return. Enter 5% of line 5	6

Part XI Distributable Amount (see page 23 of the instructions) (Section 4942(j)(3) and (j)(5) private operating foundations and certain foreign organizations check here and do not complete this part.)

1	Minimum investment return from Part X, line 6	1
2a	Tax on investment income for 2005 from Part VI, line 5	2a
b	Income tax for 2005. (This does not include the tax from Part VI.)	2b
c	Add lines 2a and 2b	2c
3	Distributable amount before adjustments Subtract line 2c from line 1	3
4	Recoveries of amounts treated as qualifying distributions	4
5	Add lines 3 and 4	5
6	Deduction from distributable amount (see page 24 of the instructions)	6
7	Distributable amount as adjusted. Subtract line 6 from line 5. Enter here and on Part XIII, line 1	7

Part XII Qualifying Distributions (see page 24 of the instructions)

1	Amounts paid (including administrative expenses) to accomplish charitable, etc., purposes:	
a	Expenses, contributions, gifts, etc.—total from Part I, column (d), line 26	1a
b	Program-related investments—total from Part IX-B	1b
2	Amounts paid to acquire assets used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes	2
3	Amounts set aside for specific charitable projects that satisfy the:	
a	Suitability test (prior IRS approval required)	3a
b	Cash distribution test (attach the required schedule)	3b
4	Qualifying distributions. Add lines 1a through 3b. Enter here and on Part V, line 8, and Part XIII, line 4	4
5	Organizations that qualify under section 4940(e) for the reduced rate of tax on net investment income. Enter 1% of Part I, line 27b (see page 24 of the instructions)	5
6	Adjusted qualifying distributions. Subtract line 5 from line 4	6

Note: The amount on line 6 will be used in Part V, column (b), in subsequent years when calculating whether the foundation qualifies for the section 4940(e) reduction of tax in those years.

Part XIII Undistributed Income (see page 24 of the instructions)

	(a) Corpus	(b) Years prior to 2004	(c) 2004	(d) 2005
1 Distributable amount for 2005 from Part XI, line 7				
2 Undistributed income, if any, as of the end of 2004:				
a Enter amount for 2004 only				
b Total for prior years: 20____, 20____, 20____				
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2005:				
a From 2000				
b From 2001				
c From 2002				
d From 2003				
e From 2004				
f Total of lines 3a through e				
4 Qualifying distributions for 2005 from Part XII, line 4: ▶ \$ _____				
a Applied to 2004, but not more than line 2a				
b Applied to undistributed income of prior years (Election required—see page 25 of the instructions)				
c Treated as distributions out of corpus (Election required—see page 25 of the instructions)				
d Applied to 2005 distributable amount				
e Remaining amount distributed out of corpus				
5 Excess distributions carryover applied to 2005 (If an amount appears in column (d), the same amount must be shown in column (a).)				
6 Enter the net total of each column as indicated below:				
a Corpus. Add lines 3f, 4c, and 4e. Subtract line 5				
b Prior years' undistributed income. Subtract line 4b from line 2b				
c Enter the amount of prior years' undistributed income for which a notice of deficiency has been issued, or on which the section 4942(a) tax has been previously assessed				
d Subtract line 6c from line 6b. Taxable amount—see page 25 of the instructions				
e Undistributed income for 2004. Subtract line 4a from line 2a. Taxable amount—see page 25 of the instructions				
f Undistributed income for 2005. Subtract lines 4d and 5 from line 1. This amount must be distributed in 2006				
7 Amounts treated as distributions out of corpus to satisfy requirements imposed by section 170(b)(1)(E) or 4942(g)(3) (see page 25 of the instructions)				
8 Excess distributions carryover from 2000 not applied on line 5 or line 7 (see page 25 of the instructions)				
9 Excess distributions carryover to 2006. Subtract lines 7 and 8 from line 6a				
10 Analysis of line 9:				
a Excess from 2001				
b Excess from 2002				
c Excess from 2003				
d Excess from 2004				
e Excess from 2005				

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Part XIV Private Operating Foundations (see page 26 of the instructions and Part VII-A, question 9)

- 1a If the foundation has received a ruling or determination letter that it is a private operating foundation, and the ruling is effective for 2005, enter the date of the ruling ▶
- b Check box to indicate whether the organization is a private operating foundation described in section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5)

2a Enter the lesser of the adjusted net income from Part I or the minimum investment return from Part X for each year listed

Tax year	Prior 3 years			(e) Total
	(a) 2005	(b) 2004	(c) 2003	
b 85% of line 2a				
c Qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 for each year listed				
d Amounts included in line 2c not used directly for active conduct of exempt activities				
e Qualifying distributions made directly for active conduct of exempt activities. Subtract line 2d from line 2c				
3 Complete 3a, b, or c for the alternative test relied upon.				
a "Assets" alternative test—enter:				
(1) Value of all assets				
(2) Value of assets qualifying under section 4942(j)(3)(B)(i)				
b "Endowment" alternative test—enter % of minimum investment return shown in Part X, line 6 for each year listed				
c "Support" alternative test—enter:				
(1) Total support other than gross investment income (interest, dividends, rents, payments on securities loans (section 512(a)(5)), or royalties)				
(2) Support from general public and 5 or more exempt organizations as provided in section 4942(j)(3)(B)(ii)				
(3) Largest amount of support from an exempt organization				
(4) Gross investment income				

Part XV Supplementary Information (Complete this part only if the organization had \$5,000 or more in assets at any time during the year—see page 26 of the instructions.)

- 1 Information Regarding Foundation Managers:
- a List any managers of the foundation who have contributed more than 2% of the total contributions received by the foundation before the close of any tax year (but only if they have contributed more than \$5,000). (See section 507(d)(2).)
- b List any managers of the foundation who own 10% or more of the stock of a corporation (or an equally large portion of the ownership of a partnership or other entity) of which the foundation has a 10% or greater interest.

2 Information Regarding Contribution, Grant, Gift, Loan, Scholarship, etc., Programs:

Check here if the organization only makes contributions to preselected charitable organizations and does not accept unsolicited requests for funds. If the organization makes gifts, grants, etc. (see page 26 of the instructions) to individuals or organizations under other conditions, complete items 2a, b, c, and d.

- a The name, address, and telephone number of the person to whom applications should be addressed:
- b The form in which applications should be submitted and information and materials they should include:
- c Any submission deadlines:
- d Any restrictions or limitations on awards, such as by geographical areas, charitable fields, kinds of institutions, or other factors:

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Form 990-PF (2005)

Part XV Supplementary Information (continued)

3 Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment

Recipient Name and address (home or business)	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution	Amount
<p><i>a Paid during the year</i></p> <p style="font-size: 2em; transform: rotate(-45deg); opacity: 0.5;">100266972</p>				
Total				▶ 3a
<p><i>b Approved for future payment</i></p>				
Total				▶ 3b

Form 990-PF (2005)

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Deductibility Code

Publication 78 uses a coding system to identify each organization listed by type and limitation on deductibility of charitable contributions to the organization. The code(s) displayed depend(s) on the code for which the organization qualifies. In cases where an organization has multiple deductibility codes, only the definition for each applicable deductibility code is displayed.

Code	Meaning
4	A private foundation, generally with a 30% deductibility limitation.

Close

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**Deductibility Code**

Publication 78 uses a coding system to identify each organization listed by type and limitation on deductibility of charitable contributions to the organization. The code(s) displayed depend(s) on the code for which the organization qualifies. In cases where an organization has multiple deductibility codes, only the definition for each applicable deductibility code is displayed.

Code	Meaning
4	A private foundation, generally with a 30% deductibility limitation.

Close

09-4403 0115.2

Exhibit 9

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative of IBM, Vice President Market Development, IBM
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: May 8, 2009
Location: IBM Offices, Washington, D.C.
Participants: Leo Wise
Beth Horton
Lisa Palluconi, Counsel for Government Programs for IBM
Adrienne G. Rhone, Director Governmental Programs

Summary: The Representative of IBM is the Vice President of Market Development for IBM. She was interviewed pursuant to Reviews 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. The Representative of IBM helped arrange IBM's participation at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008; she also participated at the event. We requested an interview with the Representative of IBM and she consented to an interview. The Representative of IBM made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. The Representative of IBM was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and she signed a written acknowledgement of the warning.
2. She attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008.
3. She attended the conference to extend IBM to areas that were not currently being served. She focuses on the Caribbean because of her division at IBM which is women and minorities. The Caribbean is an underdeveloped business unit for IBM.

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4. She first attended the conference in 2004, as a participant, to see if the conference would be a good fit for IBM to participate at as a sponsor.
5. IBM was an entry level sponsor in '05.
6. She dealt with Faye Rodney on conference matters.
7. After her attendance in '05, she received a thank you letter signed by the Rodneys that asked IBM to be a sponsor at the '06 conference.
8. IBM participated at the '05, '06, '07 and '08 conference.
9. The Rodneys continued their prior practice and sent a thank you letter with a request for sponsorship after the '07 conference for IBM to participate at the '08 conference.
10. The letter was sent to the Operations Executive and the decision to participate was decided as a team. Colin Ward, with ENI Systems, is one of IBM's business partners who also went to the conference.
11. The letter is the first communication regarding the conference.
12. After the letter is received, the team manager negotiates participation at the conference. Negotiations included timing of sessions (day/time). She requested Friday, right before or right after lunch, for the IBM session. It was important to have attendance by individuals interested in technology.
13. She also agreed to moderate the women's breakfast sponsored by Macy's.
14. The team manager would have worked with the Rodneys regarding the break-out sessions.
15. IBM controlled its own content for the session(s).
16. The first year IBM sponsored the conference, the sponsorship level was \$10,000. IBM sponsored the conference the following year at \$15,000, and in '08 the sponsorship went up to \$20,000 after IBM received a request from Faye Rodney for an increase. The Representative of IBM initially counter-offered \$18,000 but agreed to the \$20,000 at the urging of Ms. Rodney.
17. IBM has a methodical way of approving conference sponsorships. The letter from the Rodneys was received in July.

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18. She approved the check for the purchase order and released the check. Carib would have received the check in August or September.
19. After the check is released, she and the business partner collaborate on the content of session.
20. She and the business partner attended the conference.
21. She has only seen the Rodneys at the conference. She has been invited to other events but has not accepted the invitations.
22. She received a call from Mr. Rodney about the article on the conference.
23. She had no knowledge of the Foundation until this matter.
24. She understood Carib News to be the sponsor.
25. The \$20,000 level of sponsorship is low for IBM in general. However, it is worth the presence and branding for small the small business unit practice.
26. She thought IBM's sponsorship was of the conference, she did not know the Foundation existed until this issue arose. Her department does not give to non-profit organizations, only to businesses.
27. The only parameters placed on the money for the conference was with respect to time slots and length of the sessions.
28. She tells her team her preferences and the team works out the specifics with Carib.
29. She does not recall seeing a specific document that listed the various levels of sponsorship.
30. Carib News provides the framework for the conference. Then she typically tells Carib what she wants and what they will pay. She was aware from the signage that other companies were larger sponsors.
31. She arrived at the conference on Thursday and attended the opening reception. She attended a reception on Friday that was hosted by Citi and a breakout session.
32. She noticed names of entities on the agenda from the web that she knew were not at the conference.

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33. She noted that the agenda also listed her breakout session on Saturday which was inaccurate. Her session was on Friday, so she knew the agenda could not have been the final agenda.
34. She seemed to recall seeing the agenda that was submitted to Standards. She noted that the 12:00pm session was accurate, but that she did not believe that the breakout listed on Saturday was accurate.
35. She attended the Macy's breakfast on Saturday morning because it is a popular event. She noted who was on the breakfast panel and who was not (names were listed on agenda). Michelle Patterson did not speak, Burnice Johnson was not on the panel and she was not sure if she even attended the conference.
36. She saw several of the Members who attended the conference. She was on the same flight as Representative Payne. She spoke to Representative Rangel at the reception. Representative Kilpatrick was on a panel with her. And Representative Thompson road to an off-sight event with her. She was sure that she spoke to Delegate Christensen. And she spoke to Sheila Jackson Lee at the awards night.
37. The off-sight event was held at a separate hotel, it included local talent and a comedienne.
38. She stated that Members did not attend the breakout sessions.
39. She had a conversation with Rep. Thompson regarding the election.
40. She left the conference on Sunday morning by 7:00am.
41. She spoke with her team after the article regarding the conference came out.
42. She also called Mr. Rodney after she saw the article; she stated that he told her that there was an investigation and assured her that he had done all that he was supposed to do and that he wanted to keep her as a sponsor.
43. She understood sponsor to be financial sponsor of the conference. She assumed all of the companies whose logos appeared on the banner were sponsors. She assumed Carib News organized the conference.
44. She was not aware of how funding for the conference was handled. She assumed the payment from IBM went to pay for her breakout session and collateral expenses for the session.

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45. Her registration fee was part of the sponsorship. She paid for her room and all travel costs.
46. There were less than 300 people at the conference.
47. When she registered for the conference, she received a badge that allowed access to buffets during the meetings.
48. The registration fee for the conference in '05 was \$750.00.
49. She was not aware of the '08 registration fee.

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

5/8/08

For Office Use: _____

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 10

Susan A. Sullivan
Verizon Foundation
Director - Strategic Planning & Partnerships



Verizon Foundation
One Verizon Way
Bldg 6, 3rd Flr South
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

November 25, 2008

Mr. Karl B. Rodney
Chairman & CEO
Carib News Charities, Inc.
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

Dear Mr. Rodney:

On behalf of the Verizon Foundation, it is a pleasure to present the enclosed check for \$35,000.00 to Carib News Charities, Inc. in support of the 13th Annual Carib News Multi-National Business Conference - November 6-9, 2008.

Under the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, Verizon Communications must receive a written receipt from all organizations to which it makes a charitable contribution. Therefore, please complete and return the enclosed form acknowledging this gift within two weeks of receipt.

Verizon Foundation is delighted to support Carib News Charities, Inc. and we wish to thank you and the organization for your dedication and contribution to our communities.

Please recognize our contribution as coming from "Verizon Communications."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Sullivan".

SS/ah

Enclosures

cc: Patrick Gaston
Albert Browne

09-4403 0124

VZ-OCE 0001

INVOICE NUMBER	INVOICE DATE	DESCRIPTION	GROSS	DISCOUNT	NET AMOUNT
00394421-00003064	11/17/2008	005-13TH ANNUAL MULTI-NATIONAL	35,000.00		35,000.00
Check No.	Check Date	Vendor No.	Handling Code	Total	
0002756	11/21/2008	0000011098	FN	\$35,000.00	0.00
				Total	\$35,000.00

PAGE 1 of 1

Questions? Call 916/357-3270 BU APCRP

FOLD ALONG PERFORATED DOTTED LINE & REMOVE CHECK

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS MULTIPLE FRAUD DETERRENT SECURITY FEATURES - SEE REVERSE

verizon
P O Box 2200
Folsom, CA 95763-2200
916/357-3270

Wachovia Bank, National Association
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Date 11/21/2008

0002756

66-156
531

Thirty five thousand and 00/100 Dollars

PAY CARIB NEWS CHARITIES, INC.
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLR.
NEW YORK, New York 10018

\$ \$35,000.00

Catherine J. Webster
VOID SIX MONTHS AFTER ISSUE DATE

⑈0002756⑈ ⑆053101561⑆ 2079900572609⑈

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR OPENING INSTRUCTIONS

verizon
P O Box 2200
Folsom, CA 95763-2200

PRESORTED
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SACRAMENTO, CA
PERMIT NO. 98

CARIB NEWS CHARITIES, INC.
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLR.
NEW YORK, New York 10018

09-4403 0125

VZ-OCE 0002

Acknowledgment of Charitable Contribution

IMPORTANT: Please acknowledge the enclosed charitable contribution by completing and returning this form. Donors cannot deduct contributions unless they are acknowledged in this manner and a failure to return this form in a timely manner may make you ineligible for future contributions by Verizon Foundation.

1. I hereby acknowledge the Verizon Foundation 2008 contribution of:

\$35,000.00

for 13th Annual Multi-National Business Conference - November 6-9, 2008.

(or describe property or services other than money received)

Received on (date):

Date of check: 11/21/08

2. Please indicate whether or not any goods or services were provided by your organization in consideration for this contribution (e.g., the value of food, beverage, ticket or entertainment at a fundraising event):

Yes No

If YES, please describe what was provided and give a good faith estimate of the value to the goods or services, understanding that the amount of the contribution that is deductible as a charitable contribution is limited to the excess of money and the value of property contributed over the value of the goods and services provided by the charity.

Description:

Est. Value: \$

3. The information above is provided for the purpose of complying with IRS reporting requirements and is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that penalties may be imposed by the IRS on charities that fail to make the required disclosure or for making a disclosure that is inaccurate or incomplete.

Name:

Title:

Organization: Carib News Charities, Inc.

Organization Tax I.D.#: 133632050vz

Signature:

Date:

Please return to:

Anita Coleman-Hunt
Verizon Foundation One Verizon Way, VC63S427
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Telephone: 908-559-3516

Fax: 908-630-2660

09-4403 0126

VZ-OCE 0003

Acknowledgment of Charitable Contribution

IMPORTANT: Please acknowledge the enclosed charitable contribution by completing and returning this form. Donors cannot deduct contributions unless they are acknowledged in this manner and a failure to return this form in a timely manner may make you ineligible for future contributions by Verizon Foundation.

1. I hereby acknowledge the Verizon Foundation 2008 contribution of:
\$35,000.00
for 13th Annual Multi-National Business Conference - November 6-9, 2008.

(or describe property or services other than money received)

Received on (date): 11/26/08 Date of check: 11/21/08

2. Please indicate whether or not any goods or services were provided by your organization in consideration for this contribution (e.g., the value of food, beverage, ticket or entertainment at a fundraising event):
 Yes No

If YES, please describe what was provided and give a good faith estimate of the value to the goods or services, understanding that the amount of the contribution that is deductible as a charitable contribution is limited to the excess of money and the value of property contributed over the value of the goods and services provided by the charity.

Description:

Registration + Conference Meal Plan

Est. Value: \$ 1300.00

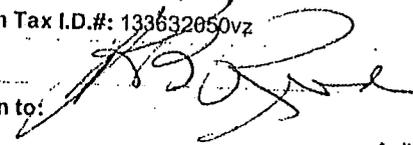
3. The information above is provided for the purpose of complying with IRS reporting requirements and is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that penalties may be imposed by the IRS on charities that fail to make the required disclosure or for making a disclosure that is inaccurate or incomplete.

Name: KARL B. RODNEY

Title: PUBLISHER / CEO

Organization: Carib News Charlles, Inc.

Organization Tax I.D.#: 133632050vz

Signature: 

Date: 12/3/08

Please return to:

Anita Coleman-Hunt
Verizon Foundation One Verizon Way, VC63S427
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Telephone: 908-559-3516

Fax: 908-630-2660

09-4403 0127

VZ-OCE 0004

Exhibit 11

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: March 23, 2009
Location: Verizon Offices, Washington, DC
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy
Beth Horton
David Kass, Assistant General Counsel Compliance
James C. Wilson, Vice President and Associate General Counsel Compliance

Summary: Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation is the President and the Strategic Director for Philanthropy of the Verizon Foundation. He was interviewed pursuant to Reviews 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation participated at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008. We requested an interview with Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and he consented to an interview. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning, signed a written acknowledgement of the warning
2. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation is currently the President of the Verizon Foundation (“the Foundation”) and Strategic Director for Philanthropy. His duties

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involve budget planning and implementation and governance for the foundation.

Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation has significant decision-making authority over grants issued by the foundation. He approves all grants in excess of \$25,000 and all grants funded more than two years in a row. He has been with the foundation and acting as President for the past five years.

3. The Foundation is funded through a corpus donated by Verizon and through public donations under Verizon Reads, a program that is offered as part of customer billing statements. The Foundation approves approximately 2,900 grants (totaling 67 million) through a competitive loan application process. The Foundation's online loan application process has specific approval requirements, including a quarterly "impact report."
4. The Foundation funded the Carib News Foundation for the first time in 2008, the grant was issued to provide funding for the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference ("the Conference"). Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation approved the Carib News Foundation grant. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was the Foundation's contact person for the Conference. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation did not interact with Karl Rodney or anyone at Carib News regarding the Foundation's participation at the Conference. Both Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation attended the conference. Mr. Rodney invited Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation to speak at the Conference and subsequently applied for a grant from the Foundation.
5. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and Mr. Rodney are both members of the board of the Foundation for the University of the West Indies. The two men interacted at board meetings four times per year. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he may also have spoken to Mr. Rodney 1-2 other times prior to the Conference regarding how the Foundation could showcase its Thinkfinity program. He also stated that he may have spoken to Mr. Rodney once after receiving his letter of invitation for the Conference. He does not recall Mr. Rodney "pitching" the conference to him. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation would not have participated at the Conference unless he could speak on educational issues. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation believed the Conference would be a good opportunity to showcase the Foundation's Thinkfinity program.
6. Mr. Rodney was aware of the Foundation's educational work through his interaction with Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation at board meetings for the Foundation of the University of West Indies. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that while

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he had spoken with Mr. Rodney regarding the Thinkfinity program, he did not make any type of informal commitment to fund the Conference.

7. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation believed that there were three levels of sponsorship for the Conference, the highest being \$50,000 and the lowest being \$25,000. However, he does not recall seeing any specific document(s) setting out the different levels of sponsorship. He stated that he was not interested in sponsorship at the \$50,000 level but later decided on a \$35,000 grant donation. When asked what the Foundation received at the Conference for the \$35,000, Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated signage and visibility. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation often provides such support for conferences, including the NAACP conference and National Urban League Conference.
8. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was provided 3 venues at the Conference to speak about the Thinkfinity program. The Foundation believed participation at the Conference would provide exposure to English speaking Caribbean individuals who have connections to universities in New York.
9. The Foundation is required to issue grants only to 501(c)(3) entities. The Foundation could not make a donation to a corporation. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was somewhat familiar with the Carib News paper; he has been featured in the paper and Verizon has advertised in the paper. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was not aware of Carib News Charities until the entity applied for a grant. He believed Carib News Charities was the same entity as Carib News Foundation. He is not aware of any other work the Carib News Charities/Foundation is involved in other than the conference. Mr. Rodney did not talk about the Carib News Charities/Foundation at board meetings.
10. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation arrived at the Conference on Thursday afternoon and departed on Saturday morning. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he went to make his speech and promptly left the event. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation spoke 3 times on Friday; he was acknowledge at the welcome event on Friday morning and he participated in a demonstration on Thinkfinity in the afternoon. It is not clear from Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation's remarks what other time he spoke at the Conference. He was invited to speak on Saturday but he did not feel that an extra day was necessary.
11. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation recalled seeing and speaking to Congressman Rangel. The Congressman mentioned Alltel and told him to remind his CEO to keep in mind the needs of the minority community. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation

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stated that he had no other contact with Members at the Conference. He did not know Delegate Christenson, Congressman Thompson, Congressman Payne and was not sure whether he saw Congresswoman Kilpatrick (he was not sure who she is). He does recall that one lady stated that she would love to see the Thinkfinity program in her state. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was accompanied by Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation 90% of the time he was at the Conference; he was not aware of any contact between Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and any Members.

12. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation received an advance copy of the agenda for the conference. The copy indicated that the Foundation was scheduled for two days of activities. He requested that the Saturday meetings be canceled or moved to Friday. He had not seen the agenda that Mr. Rodney submitted to the Ethics Committee for travel approval. He stated that advance copies of the agenda were common, most organizations provided the same level of detail with other conferences. He believed that he had seen more than one copy of the agenda. The agendas that were sent to him focused on the Foundation's participation and not the entire conference.
13. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was asked if it was typical to have an agenda that listed speakers without identifying their employer/affiliations. He was not sure and didn't remember if the drafts he had seen included his title; he was more concerned with having a sense of what he would be doing at the Conference.
14. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney prior to the Conference to cancel the programs he was slated to speak at on Saturday (this was his 3rd call regarding the Conference – 1st call was regarding invitation, 2nd call was to discuss his participation, 3rd was to cancel Saturday programs). Mr. Rodney was receptive to Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation's request and the Saturday program was cancelled.
15. The Foundation paid all travel expenses for Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation. He did not see the check the Foundation issued for the Conference or the confirmation letter from Mr. Rodney. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation met with Mr. Rodney following the conference at a board meeting for the Foundation for the University of West Indies. He also had breakfast with Mr. Rodney at which time they briefly discussed the Conference. According to Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation, Mr. Rodney was upset over the New York Post article regarding the Conference. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Mr. Rodney felt the article was misleading and that he had done everything that he was supposed to do

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regarding receiving approval from the Ethics Committee. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he and Mr. Rodney did not spend much time speaking about the matter. He felt that Mr. Rodney wanted him to know that he was diligent about following rules. When asked if he knew what rules Mr. Rodney was speaking about, Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he did not know which rules he was referring to.

16. Prior to his work with the Foundation, Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was with Government Affairs with Verizon, his former position did not involve lobbying. His position involved Strategic Alliance, he was responsible for working with non-profits across the country. He dealt with policy issues regarding universal service. He did not interact with regulators.
17. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation met with Eric Eve with Citi 2-3 weeks prior to our interview, they were both attending a meeting with the head of the NAACP. He did not speak to Mr. Eve about the Conference although they did speak about scrutiny on Citi related to TARP funding. He has not had any contact with the Representative of Citi from Citi.

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: 3/23/09

For Office Use: _____

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 12

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: March 23, 2009
Location: Verizon Offices, Washington, DC
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy
Beth Horton
David Kass, Assistant General Counsel Compliance
James C. Wilson, Vice President and Associate General Counsel Compliance

Summary: Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation is the National Program Director for the Verizon Foundation and Vice President for Education & Technology for Verizon. He was interviewed pursuant to Reviews 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation helped arrange the Verizon Foundation's participation at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008; he also accompanied Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation to the event. We requested an interview with Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and he consented to an interview. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning, signed a written acknowledgement of the warning

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2. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation is currently the National Program Director for the Verizon Foundation ("the Foundation") and Vice President for Education & Training for Verizon. He works on educational literacy and technology innovations for the Foundation, 80% of his time is spent on Thinkfinity. He is the only person with an operational role in the program.
3. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation helped arrange the Verizon Foundation's participation at 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference ("the Conference") in 2008; he also accompanied Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation to the event.
4. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation reviews repeat grant requests for the Foundation. When asked how the Carib News Foundation request came to his desk he stated that it was a result of conversations with Karl Rodney and Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation. He was not sure which conversation occurred first. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was invited to speak at the Conference and either simultaneously or immediately after Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation received the invitation, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney.
5. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes that he spoke with Mr. Rodney in person at a meeting for the Foundation for the University of the West Indies. Mr. Rodney inquired about the application for the grant for the Conference. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation recalled Mr. Rodney stating that he had spoke with Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and that he believed the Conference would be a good fit for the Foundation and would provide a good opportunity to communicate the Foundation's program Thinkfinity.
6. The Verizon Foundation also supports the Foundation for the University of the West Indies. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation has interacted with Mr. Rodney regarding the Foundation for the University of the West Indies.
7. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation also had previous interactions with Mr. Rodney at dinner and business meetings related the American Fund and to the publication of articles on the Foundation's Thinkfinity program.
8. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation will have been with the Foundation 3 years in October.

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9. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes he began talking with Mr. Rodney about the Conference sometime in the summer. He spoke with Mr. Rodney about the grant application. He described to Mr. Rodney the cyber grant process and explained what needed to be provided in the grant application. The system requires applicants to be 501 (c)(3) entities.
10. The head of Governance and Compliance for Verizon verifies whether applicant is a registered 501(c)(3). A grant request from a non 501 (c)(3) would be removed from the system; the request would not be forwarded to Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation. The Foundation's grant approval process is formal. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he could show a specific interest in a proposal but could not give any type of commitment to an applicant.
11. Mr. Rodney would be required to provide a deck of the '07 conference, a description of the purpose of the conference and a tentative agenda for the cyber application.
12. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney approximately 8-10 weeks prior to the conference at which time they discussed the level of sponsorship the Foundation was interested in funding.
13. Mr. Rodney described 3 levels of sponsorship to Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that this was typical of corporate sponsorships at other conferences.
14. Mr. Rodney offered the Foundation a \$50,000 sponsorship, which was the gold level. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes there was also a platinum level at \$75,000. He believes that Mr. Rodney showed him a 2007 deck with 3 levels (platinum at \$75,000, gold at \$50,000, and silver at \$25,000) prior to a scheduled interview of Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation.
15. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation explained to Mr. Rodney that the Foundation wished to negotiate a level of funding other than what was being offered. The amount of \$35,000 was decided upon by the Foundation.
16. When asked what the Foundation would receive for its funding, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that they would receive signage but that the Foundation was not specifically interested in a "quid pro quo" reciprocation, the Foundation merely wanted to disseminate information about its Thinkfinity program. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation does not do business in the Caribbean.

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17. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation made an introductory speech but that he was not sure whether the speech was included in the Foundation's sponsorship level; the speech was not pre-set in the 2007 sponsorship deck.
18. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney approximately once a week for 6-7 weeks prior to the conference to discuss Verizon's participation/logistics/capacity for web casts at the conference – contact included phone calls and emails. Contact increased as conference approached.
19. When asked how Verizon decided on \$35,000 sponsorship, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he received a call from the Carib staff regarding the conference. The Foundation was asked to sponsor at the \$50,000 level, a \$35,000 counter-offer was made to Mr. Rodney, which he accepted.
20. Conversations regarding sponsorship levels began about 8-10 weeks prior to the conference with the final dollar figure being determined approximately 2 weeks prior to the conference.
21. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Patricia with Carib regarding sponsorship, she thought the Foundation was sponsoring at the \$50,000, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation explained that the amount was \$35,000. When asked if Karl Rodney was upset with the sponsorship level, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation answered that he was not upset.
22. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation worked on the conference before Carib submitted application for funding which he stated was not unusual.
23. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he saw early drafts of the agenda prior to the conference, and then saw final draft at conference.
24. An early draft was shared with him in order for him to staff and notify Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation of his speaking times.
25. He did not recall seeing any affiliation information on the early draft, he believes affiliations might have appeared on final draft. He did ask that any information be included on final draft after reviewing the earlier version.
26. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation prepared 2 versions of the Foundation's role at the conference.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

27. The topics for the conference were decided through dialog between himself and Karl Rodney with some prior comments from Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation. Mr. Rodney was aware of the Thinkfinity program. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation suggested web casts.
28. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation thought that Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and Mr. Rodney framed the Foundation's participation at the conference.
29. Town Hall event was Mr. Rodney's idea.
30. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes that Mr. Rodney was trying to bring together various corporate interests to create a dialogue about social and economic issues that would benefit both the Caribbean and the U.S.
31. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Carib News Foundation was the only charitable entity that he was aware of, it was the listed entity in the grant application.
32. The question arose as to who sponsored conference, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he was aware that Carib News was a for-profit entity, so he asked who was the sponsor. If the sponsor was Carib News, the Foundation could not participate as a sponsor.
33. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he did not see the check that went to the Conference, it would have been generated and sent through the internal system.
34. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation did not recall seeing the name Carib News Charities Inc.
35. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation saw an early draft of the grant application but does not recall seeing the final version. He was not responsible for final approval.
36. Kathy Browne, Senior VP for Corporate Responsibility would have approved the grant.
37. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spent 2.5 days at the conference, he arrived on Thursday evening, participated at the conference on Friday and departed on Sunday.
38. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation participated in the welcome remarks on Friday morning, the plenary session, and in a roundtable meeting with educational ministers.
39. Mr. Rodney arranged these meetings, the webcast did not take place.

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40. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation did not attend the conference on Saturday or Sunday. He also left the hotel after the Foundation completed its presentations.
41. When asked about the Town Hall meeting, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Karl Rodney suggested that the Foundation speak about the Thinkfinity program, the opening remarks framework was also suggested by Mr. Rodney, Mr. Eve was to give introductory remarks and then Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was to speak.
42. There was a back and forth discussion about the plenary session between Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and Mr. Rodney to determine what role the Foundation would play in conjunction with the President of Medgar Evers College. The topic was technology supporting education.
43. There was no discussion regarding scheduling sessions to benefit US companies.
44. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he did not have any contact with Members of Congress other than a possible introductory handshake.
45. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation saw Representatives Kilpatrick, Rangel and the former head of the NAACP at the conference, along with other governmental officials from other countries. He also recalled seeing Delegate Christensen and Representative Payne. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation did not know Representative Thompson.
46. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation interacted with Mr. Rodney after the conference to discuss the American Fund and the University of the West Indies. He did not discuss the conference with Mr. Rodney.
47. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes that he may have received a thank you letter from Mr. Rodney for participating at the conference.
48. He did not see the contribution-sponsorship letter.
49. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was aware of Mr. Rodney's Foundation, and the fact that it sponsored the conference. He also believed Mr. Rodney's Foundation performed social work for boys and girls club events and that it worked with the American Fund for the University of the West Indies. He was not sure why he felt that Rodney's Foundation was involved with these other events.

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50. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation did not place any restrictions on the funding it provided to the conference through its grant, the use would have been specified in the grant application/guidelines

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

3/23/09.

For Office Use:

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 13



Carib News Foundation
 7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
 Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
 E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

April 04, 2008

Ms. Marilyn Johnson
 VP Marketing Development
 IBM Corporation
 1133 Westchester Avenue
 White Plains, NY 10604

*Copy Johnson
 Copy Johnson
 Copy Johnson*

Dear Ms. Johnson:

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

Your support and that of *IBM* went a long way to make the conference a success. and has fostered on-going growth in business achievements and impactful policy decisions. We appreciate very much the professionalism and enthusiasm you bring to the Conference with your keen participation. The presence and demonstration of real live "*IBM Partner*" as a result of the conference is a powerful testimony. We do get concrete results and expressed appreciation of new opportunities.

We can assure you that all the key stakeholders, Members of Congress, Heads and Ministers of Government, Elected Officials, Community and Business Leaders are all aware and appreciative of *IBM's* participation in this very important mission.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. We know of your interest to deepen the *IBM* local, regional and global connection, and I know the Conference can achieve that. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

3

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

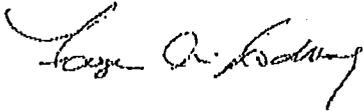
- 2 -

We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail. I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@mycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

4

Invoice

CARIB NEWS INC.
 7 WEST 36TH STREET
 8TH FLOOR
 NEW YORK, 10018
 212-944-1991

Date	Invoice #
7/16/2008	45122

Bill To
Wanda McKenzie IBM 2607 Jesters Court Marietta, GA 30068

Description	Amount
Sponsorship Multi-National Business Conference 2008 TAX ID 13-362060	20,000.00
Total 6	
\$20,000.00	

		EXP		Pieces: 1/1	
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TO: NEW YORK CARIB NEWS, INC. FAVE RODNEY 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10018 UNITED STATES		TELEPHONE: 212-944-1991			
Description: IBM check		Weight: Letter		Date: 2008-10-08	
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DATE: 2008/08/08

Pay to the order of:
NEW YORK CARIB NEWS
7 W 36TH ST 8TH FL
NEW YORK NY 10018
UNITED STATES

THE sum of \$ *****20,000.00**

Per *Richard J. Carroll*
Authorized signature

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0003777521 :021304374:601825847*

7

Exhibit 14

May 15, 2009

MEMORANDUM

VIA FAX TO: 202-226-0997

TO: Omar Ashmawy
FROM: Will Ris
RE: Materials related to Carib News Foundation Conference

At your request, I am faxing you the following documents:

1. The original letter of request for support from Carib News Foundation sent to American Airlines. I assume that they sent the identical letter to other airlines because in paragraph 3, they refer to "Continental" when it should be "American". In any case, they requested a total of 95 tickets for this event. We responded orally and told them the maximum we could provide would be 10.
2. A listing of the 10 tickets that we provided. If you need more detailed records of each individual ticket, I am happy to provide it. But this shows the names and itineraries of all 10 travelers. We provided no other support for the conference except that our group sales office authorized a standard 5 percent discount on tickets for those travelling to the conference - - this is universally available to any group of 10 or more travelling to the same location.

If there is anything else I can help you with, please let me know.



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

June 6, 2008

Mr. Will Ris
Senior Vice President
Government Affairs
American Airlines
1101 17th Street, Suite 600
Washington, DC 20036

(10 First)

Dear Mr. Ris:

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Since Air Transportation is such a vital issue for the Caribbean Region, it is going to be one of the Agenda items in the travel & Tourism sector. Continental's success is vital to the Caribbean region and the US role in world travel; we would expect significant input into any initiatives discussed.

We expect to have elected officials of the US and the Caribbean, Civic Leaders and Business- persons who can influence policies and encourage worthwhile initiatives to be at the Conference. We would welcome American Airlines' participation.

The Host Committee in the Caribbean Region and the Planning Committee in the US have all agreed to honor you with the Conference's prestigious **Marcus Garvey Bridge Builders Award**. Should you agree to accept, we would ask Congressman Charles Rangel and Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson to make the presentation to you.

We are open to our customary barter of tickets for sponsorship levels, and have enclosed a proposed arrangement guide similar to last year.

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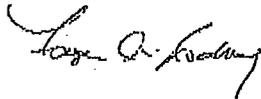
Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail. I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

We are expecting about 20 Members of Congress or more who will be attending along with other Civic Leaders and VIP's. Again, we will position American Airlines as one of the main carriers to the Caribbean transporting the elected officials and celebrities. To help us move the process along we would like to propose the following, that American Airlines participate as a Gold Sponsor of the conference in consideration for which American Airlines would receive the following:

- American Airlines will be recognized as a main sponsor.
- American Airlines name and logo will be included on all printed material.
- American Airlines will be included in all radio and television promotions.
- American Airlines will be in all Internet promotions.
- American Airlines will be a designated sponsor of a main event and/or a workshop with speaking opportunities.
- American Airlines will receive prominent space for display or exhibition.
- American Airlines banners will be displayed in the main conference area
- American Airlines can develop specific promotional materials.

In return for the above, American Airlines will provide *Carib News* with:

- Maximum of fifty (50) roundtrip coach class tickets from the 48 contiguous United States to Antigua. Reservations to be done by *Carib News* and ticketing to be by American Airlines.
- Maximum of thirty-five (35) first-class roundtrip tickets from the 48 contiguous United States to Antigua.
- Maximum of five (5) coach class tickets and five (5) first class tickets to be used for site inspection and conference planning prior to the conference.
- American Airlines will provide group fares for registered attendees. Fare and reservations & ticketing to be negotiated by American Airlines.

Site Inspection is part of the sponsorship package. We do plan to do site inspections in St. Maarten when we will officially announce the Conference and work out broad issues.

CARIBNEWS SWM CONFERENCE 2008

Organization Name	Booking Code	Destination	Tkt/Deal#	Event Name	Authorizer STA	ERA	Latter Nbr	Expiration Date	Rate/Nbr	Routing	PNR	Traveler Name
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PRONAM	CaribNews SWM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388125	525150	JFK-SJM-JFK	LHURDQ	RODNEY/JK
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PRONAM	CaribNews SWM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388125	525150	JFK-SJM-JFK	LHURDQ	RODNEY/JK
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PRONAM	CaribNews SWM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388127	525150	JFK-SJM-JFK	LHURDQ	RODNEY/JK
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PRONAM	CaribNews SWM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388128	525150	JFK-SJM	DYKIGS	TAYLOR/JS
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PRONAM	CaribNews SWM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388129	525150	JFK-SJM-SIU-JFK	PQIWAY	BURNS/JK
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PRONAM	CaribNews SWM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388130	525150	JFK-SJM-SIU-JFK	PQIWAY	EVER/JT
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PRONAM	CaribNews SWM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388131	525150	JFK-SJM-JFK	PQIWAY	EVER/JT
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	T	NAM	PRONAM	CaribNews SWM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	412645	539511	JFK-SJM-JFK	PNR	WILLIAMS/J
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	T	NAM	PRONAM	CaribNews SWM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	412647	539511	JFK-SJM-JFK	LYAFTT	SIMMONS/C
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	T	NAM	PRONAM	CaribNews SWM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	412648	539511	DCA-MIA-SJM-NLA-DCA JFK-SIU-SJM-JFK	CARWAZ HBOVWY	SIMMONS/C DORSON/JA

Exhibit 15

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311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2006	Year-End	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2006	Year-End	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2006	Year-End	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2007	Mid-Year	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION	2007	Year-End	Caine, Christopher

311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2007	Mid- Year	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2007	Mid- Year	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	1st Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	2nd Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	3rd Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	4th Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2009	1st Quarter	Edington, PJ
311230000	International Business Machines Corporation (IBM)	International Business Machines Corporation (IBM)	2005	Year- End	Caine, Christopher
401290000	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	2008	1st Quarter	None
401290000	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	2008		Last Name 01, First Name 01
401290000	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	2008	3rd Quarter	None

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310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2006	Year-End	Burgeson, Christine
310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2007	Mid-Year	Burgeson, Christine
310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2007	Year-End	Burgeson, Christine
310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2007	Year-End	Burgeson, Christine
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2007	Mid-Year	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2007	Year-End	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	1st Quarter	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	2nd Quarter	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	3rd Quarter	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	4th Quarter	None
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2006	Year-End	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2007	Mid-Year	Snyder, John

316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2007	Year-End	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	1st Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	2nd Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	3rd Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	4th Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2009	1st Quarter	Snyder, John
373770000	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	2007	Mid-Year	Robinson, Ken
373770000	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	2007	Year-End	Robinson, Kenneth



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Search Field		Search Field	

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Primary Sort Registrant Name Secondary Sort Client Name

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House ID	Registrant Name	Client Name	Filing Year	Filing Period	Lobbyist Full Name
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2006	Year-End	Davidson, Peter B.
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Mid-Year	Davidson, Peter B.
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Year-End	Davidson, Peter
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	1st Quarter	Davidson, Peter
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	2nd Quarter	Cantrel, Frank
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	3rd Quarter	Cantrel, Frank
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	4th Quarter	Davidson, Peter
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2009	1st Quarter	Cantrel, Frank
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2006	Year-End	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Mid-Year	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Year-End	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	1st	

09-4403 0160

352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	2nd Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	3rd Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	4th Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2009	1st Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
315720000	Verizon & its affiliates, except Verizon Wireless	Verizon & its affiliates, except Verizon Wireless	2005	Year-End	Davidson, Peter
315720000	Verizon & its affiliates, except Verizon Wireless	Verizon & its affiliates, except Verizon Wireless	2006	Mid-Year	Davidson, Peter
352050000	Verizon Wireless	Verizon Wireless	2005	Year-End	Azare, Monica
352050000	Verizon Wireless	Verizon Wireless	2006	Mid-Year	Azare, Monica

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Exhibit 16



BASIC REQUIREMENTS

TO HOST

CARIBBEAN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

- Invitation to host conference to be issued by Prime Minister (Head of Government). This is to facilitate the attendance of several elected officials from the United States, United Kingdom and other countries.
- Prime Minister to be keynote speaker at one of the major events of the conference and participates in the closed door session with attending elected officials.
- Local host committee to be organized with all interested ministers, agencies and associations. The chairman of this committee would be someone designated by the Prime Minister to coordinate all the activities.
- To provide the care and comfort for the VIP's attending i.e.
 - To provide 25 all-inclusive rooms for the VIP's and members of Congress attending.
 - To provide appropriate mode of transportation for VIP's and members of Congress - cars or specialized vans - not buses.
- To be a designated sponsor in one of the categories - *Title, Main or Regular Sponsor* (See Attachment)
- To organize a "Host Country Evening" - The Friday evening, the host country will host at an appropriate location an evening of food, refreshment, cultural presentation and entertainment.
- Provide for local entertainment for the various functions -
 - The Opening Ceremonies
 - The Reception
 - The Gala Dinner
- To assist in Promotion and Publicity of the conference both locally and through international offices and official publications.
- Assist in securing competitive hotel rates.
- Equip and staff conference secretariat.
- Prime Minister to issue invitations along with CARIB-NEWS to members of the US Congress, other Prime Ministers and Ministers of Government.
- Participate in the Forum with Members of Congress.
- Arrange tours and activities of interest for VIP's and/or their spouse.

09-4403 0163

THE NEW YORK
CARIBNEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10018 (212) 944-1991

August 13, 2008

The Hon. Sarah A. Wescott-Williams
Leader of Government
Government Administration Building
Clam Labega Square, Philipsburg
St. Maarten, N.A.

Hon. Commissioner:

Plans are moving ahead for the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-national Business Conference, November 6-9 in your beautiful country. We have sent out invitations to several Members of Congress, Prime Ministers, Presidents and Premiers, to attend the Conference. A list of those invitees is attached. Senator Hillary Clinton has expressed an interest and her invitation will be forwarded soon. Also see Congressman Rangel's personal note of acceptance.

We wish for you now to send out your invitation to these individuals as previously discussed. A copy of past invitation letter is included. We will continue to do all the follow-up as planning and implementation as agreed to.

We are working on the draft of the program and will be sharing it with you and the Host Committee shortly. We would like to schedule our first Conference meeting by telephone with the Host Committee within the next 10 days, to start going over each area of the Basic requirements list, and to develop some time-line and contact person for each area.

We need to know immediately who on the Host Committee will be handling press and publicity, we can start sending Press Releases and Press updates.

We will be sending regular updates.

Kindest Regards



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

c.c. Commissioner Roy Marlin
Director of Tourism, Regina LaBega
Marla Chemont



Taking Our Rightful Place In The Sun



Carib News Foundation

7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017

Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089

E-mail:

June 25, 2008

Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams
Leader of Government Business
Government Administration Building
Clem Labega Square
Philipsburg, St. Maarten, NA

Dear Commissioner Wescot-Williams:

Plans are coming in place for the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-national Business Conference scheduled for November 6-9 at your invitation to the beautiful country of St. Maarten.

We were very involved with the Conference on the Caribbean held in New York last week with some fifteen Heads of CARICOM Governments, which was a success, but took a large part of our time. All attention is now set for St. Maarten.

We have signed the contract with the Maho Resort and we are in conversation with many of our sponsors. Already we have some important names agreeing to come, including Congressman Charles Rangel and Governor of New York, David Paterson. We are mindful of the issues of interest to St. Maarten and so we have issued invitations to several Members of Congress, Heads of Education and Health institutions. A strong financial sector is expected; already Citibank and HSBC are on board.

There is very strong interest in the conference and all the information about the conference as St. Maarten is now on the website, in print and on radio. The promotion has begun in earnest.

We would now wish to start liaison with the local host committee to coordinate our planning with yours. Could you be kind enough to please identify the committee and the contact person and other information. We would wish that the person would report to you directly or Commissioner Marlin to expedite any matter.

Please find attached ideas for the Theme and some areas of concentration from which we can develop the program. The Host Committee should use the basic requirement as the basis for their planning. We will send a matrix of some time line and arrange for our next planning visit.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

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2008 CARIBBEN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

THEMES

We are suggesting as possible themes, the following:

Please feel free to change, adjust or even new approaches.

CHANGING STRATEGIES TO EMBRACE NEW POSSIBILITIES - THE GLOBAL MARKET

MOVING BEYOND BARRIERS TO A STRATEGY FOR GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

CHANGING STRATEGIES, BUILDING ALLIANCES, FACING NEW REALITIES

A REGION IN TRANSITION - STRATEGY FOR CHANGE, ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS

AREAS OF CONCENTRATION

We are also now shaping the presentations and the workshops and the areas of concentration are some of which were suggested by yourself and Commissioner Martin.

1) **TOURISM**

- Pre clearance
- Unfunded mandate by the US
- Investment in Tourism
- Health tourism
- Regional co-operation

2) **HEALTH**

- St. Maarten, ideal location for Regional Health Center
- Delivery of health care
- Lifestyle diseases - diabetes, hypertension, obesity
- Health investment
- Collaboration with US Institutions

3) **EDUCATION**

- Collaboration with US institutions
- Curriculum development
- Presentation of Thinkfinity - high tech tool for teaching
- Initiative between the University of the West Indies and Medgar Evers College



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

To : Host Committee
Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference
cc: Bernard Hunt; Sonesta Maho Beach Resort

From : Karl B. Rodney
CARIB NEWS

Date : October 15, 2008

SUBJECT : Town Hall Meetings

In the interest of organizing successful Town Hall Meetings, and to make program print deadline, we suggest the use of the space available at the Sonesta Maho for those meetings.

We think the participation of the local groups and individuals in these meetings are necessary and productive because of the subject matter. We would therefore urge a strong outreach media program and direct contact to interest groups to ensure success of the Fora.

Thursday 5:00 - 6:30pm : Healthy Eating and Living
Friday 4:30 - 6:00pm : Education - Sharing Working Solutions
Saturday 4:30 - 6:00 pm : Technology

There is a great line up and we may have some additional star power. Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams also suggested she might have additional local speakers for these fora, and we welcome that.

Thanks for your kind cooperation.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

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Carib News Foundation

7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017

Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: (212) 944-2089

E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

February 8, 2008

Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams
Leader of Government Business
Government Administration Building
Clem Labega Square
Philipsburg, St. Maarten, NA

Dear Commissioner Wescot-Williams:

It is with great pleasure that I wish to inform you that the Planning Committee has selected St. Maarten to host the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, November 6-9, 2008. There was great interest in St. Maarten because of your personal invitation issued in Antigua, and certainly all the other excellent facilities on the island.

We look forward to a great conference and with working with you and your team. We would wish that you appoint the Host Committee as soon as possible so that the real planning will start. We will be proposing some thematic approaches for your consideration, in order to get the right participants and targeted focus.

We have the proposal from the hotels and will be making that selection within the week, after which we can start the promotion. The *SAVE THE DATE* and *VENUE* will be going out to the Members of Congress shortly. We will develop a time line for the other activities.

We are proceeding with the plan and would appreciate the formal letter of invitation.

We are very excited about working with you and St. Maarten again, and we expect a great conference.

Congratulations, and thanks for your kind consideration.

Very Truly Yours,

Faye A. Rodney

President

Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

cc. Marla Chemont, Marketing Assistant

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation



Carib News Foundation

7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017

Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: (212) 944-2089

E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

January 23, 2008

Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams
Leader of Government Business
Government Administration Building
Clem Labega Square
Philipsburg, St. Maarten, NA

Dear Commissioner Wescot-Williams:

Thanks very much for inviting us to St. Maarten to explore the possibility of St. Maarten as the Host Venue for the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, scheduled for November 6-9, 2008.

We had the pleasure of meeting with Commissioner Roy Marlin to discuss the conference, its mission and of course, St. Maarten's priorities to be addressed in the conference. Among the areas discussed were:

- ♦ The Passport issue and its impact on St. Maarten and the Caribbean
- ♦ The US Pre-clearance option and what are the possibilities
- ♦ Educational collaboration and in-state tuition consideration for students from St. Maarten
- ♦ A major women's initiative at the conference and targeting many large sororities to hold meetings and conventions in St. Maarten
- ♦ The influence on impact of the Congressional delegation on the current constitutional negotiations with the Dutch Government, particularly where the Dutch Government has lobbied these Members on their special interests.
- ♦ An appealing or special role model to address the youth of St. Maarten
- ♦ To conduct community outreach programs involving the wider population in the areas of Health, Education and possibly Technology.

These are areas that we can establish direct linkages with, elected officials, professional experts, corporate perspectives and certainly business opportunities.

We were reminded by Ludwig Ouenniche the then President of the Chamber of Commerce, that it was in St. Maarten that the issue of increase of Duty Free Allowance was raised and was subsequently raised to twice the amount within six months, benefiting all the merchants not only in St. Maarten but the Caribbean.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

09-4403 0169



Carib News Foundation
 7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
 Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
 E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

April 04, 2008

Ms. Marilyn Johnson
 VP Marketing Development
 IBM Corporation
 1133 Westchester Avenue
 White Plains, NY 10604

*Copy Johnson
 - copy of book
 - copy of photo*

Dear Ms. Johnson:

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

Your support and that of *IBM* went a long way to make the conference a success. and has fostered on-going growth in business achievements and impactful policy decisions. We appreciate very much the professionalism and enthusiasm you bring to the Conference with your keen participation. The presence and demonstration of real live "*IBM Partner*" as a result of the conference is a powerful testimony. We do get concrete results and expressed appreciation of new opportunities.

We can assure you that all the key stakeholders, Members of Congress, Heads and Ministers of Government, Elected Officials, Community and Business Leaders are all aware and appreciative of *IBM's* participation in this very important mission.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. We know of your interest to deepen the *IBM* local, regional and global connection, and I know the Conference can achieve that. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

3

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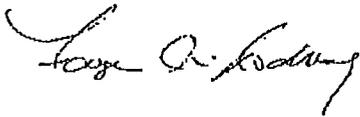
- 2 -

We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail. I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

4

CARIB NEWS INC.

7 WEST 36TH STREET
8TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, 10018
212-944-1991

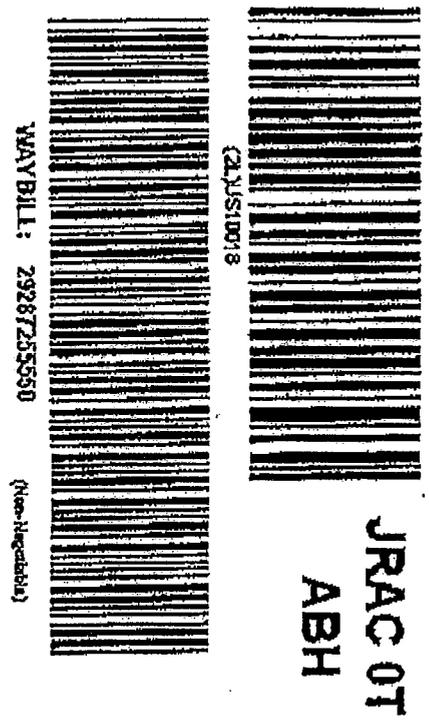
Invoice

Date	Invoice #
7/16/2008	45122

Bill To
Wanda McKenzie IBM 2607 Jesters Court Marietta, GA 30068

Description	Amount
Sponsorship Multi-National Business Conference 2008 TAX ID 13-362060	20,000.00
	
Total	\$20,000.00

 EXP Pieces: 1/1 ORIGIN: ILE POST CODE: 10018 TEL: 212-944-1091	FM: IBM CO TROU 0030 M. Johnson C/O ARNOLD LOGISTICS 11400 BURNET RD AUSTIN, TX 78758 UNITED STATES phone: 512-286-2350 TO: NEW YORK CARIB NEWS, INC. FAYE RODNEY 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10018 UNITED STATES
	Description: IBM check Weight: Letter Date: 2008-10-08 DHL standard terms and conditions apply.



JRAC 0T
 ABH

International Business Machines Corporation
 170 North St, Endicott, New York 13740-3503

Check Number: 0002177521
 0002177521

DATE: 2008/10/08

Pay to the order of:
 NEW YORK CARIB NEWS
 7 W 36TH ST 8TH FL
 NEW YORK, NY 10018
 UNITED STATES

The sum of \$*****20,000.00**
 Per: Richard J. Carroll
 Authorized signature

JP Morgan Chase Bank
 Syracuse, NY 13206

0003777521 02130437906018258470

7

Exhibit 17

Registration

From: plouis [plouis@nyocaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 11:00 AM
To: 'Kelly Mobley, Dawn'
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,
In response to your e-mail, the answer to your question is NO.
Regards and Thanks for your patience.

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----
From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 10:26 AM
To: plouis
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

FYI

From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 2:41 PM
To: plouis
cc: Kelly Mobley, Dawn; O'Nelly, Bill
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Louis,

Please explain in more detail your email message below relative to the "sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip." In this regard, do the following entities pay for any of the expenses of the trip for the invited House Members, including roundtrip air transportation costs, lodging costs, meal costs, cost of a particular meal or reception, etc.?

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM

10/15/2007

09-4403 0175

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CN 00052

- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
 Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:37 AM
 To: Olson, Susan
 Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,

In response to your e-mail:

The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation.

As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program

that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Federally registered lobbyists or foreign agents will not be accompanying the Members or participating in the program.

Regards,

Patricia Louis
 Executive Assistant
 CARIB NEWS
 7 West 38th Street, 8th Floor
 New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
 Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
 To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
 Cc: Dawn.KellyMoblely@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill

10/15/2007

09-4403 0176

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000054

Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's (Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring" sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]," which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

10/15/2007

09-4403 0178

CONFIDENTIAL

CNL000056



THE NEW YORK CARIBNEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 4th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	Susan Olsen	FROM:	R. Louis <i>[Signature]</i>
COMPANY:	House Ctee on Standards	DATE:	10/12/07
FAX NUMBER:	202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:	
RE:	Travel Certification Form		
<input type="checkbox"/> URGENT <input type="checkbox"/> FOR REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELEASE REPLY <input type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION			

Ms. Olsen,
In response to your e-mail -- the Conference is paid for by CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION.

The companies are participants. They are not sponsors or co-sponsors for any part of the trip and play no role in the planning or content.

The program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants.

I regret the misunderstanding and thank you for your patience as I go through and grow through this process, which is new to me.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 1:55 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Confidential

The fax did not come through. I will be stepping out of the office for the remainder of the day, but will be in early Monday. Please follow up again with Susan. I have explained that the organizations you labeled as co-sponsors are not. They support your foundation annually, but have not and will not pay for the Members trip. This is simply a misunderstanding of the terms "sponsor", "contributor", and "participant" as used in the Ethics rules which is why I sent you the Rules book for preparation.

Once you are able to clarify these issues and make sure your itinerary passes too, you should be fine. An Ethics Committee Staff Attorney must review and approve as well. Your Staff Attorney is Susan.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 11:55 AM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Confidential

Have you spoken with your Director and explained the problem so you can call Olson asap?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:59 AM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: FW: Confidential

Please read both emails below. Give Susan a call as soon as you work through the kink, let her know you are following up. Please make yourself available to work through this matter today. Thank you Patricia. (These other organizations can participate in the program but should not help pay for the trip).

From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:29 AM
To: O'Reilly, Bill; Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-Trip Approval Issues

Bill and Dawn,
Please note the following response from Ms. Louls at Carib News. Unfortunately, it appears that if each sponsor contributes funding directly to the trip (an earmark of funds) and not simply to the general funds of Carib News, then the assumption is that all of these entities are co-sponsors of the trip for purposes of the House travel rules. If that is the case and since it is likely that at least one of these co-sponsors hires or retains a federally registered lobbyist, the trip could only be a one-day event trip. Thus the Committee can't approve the trip as it currently exists.

But, if you have a different interpretation of the below information from Ms. Louls, please do let
10/12/2007

me know. Thanks! Susan.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:33 AM
To: Olson, Susan
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,

In response to your e-mail:

The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation;

As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program

that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

No federally registered lobbyist or foreign agent will be accompanying the Members or participating in the program.

Regards

Patricia Lewis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn.KellyMoblely@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Lewis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's

10/12/2007

09-4403 0181

CONFIDENTIAL

ON 000000

(Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring" sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]" which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

10/12/2007

09-4403 0182

HT-2, The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7103
Fax: 202-225-7392

10/12/2007



THE NEW YORK CARIB NEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 56TH STREET, 48 FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Dawn Kelly Mobley	FROM: P. Louis <i>[Signature]</i>
COMPANY: Ethics Counsel for Cong. Stephanie Tubbs Jones	DATE: 10/11/97
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: Travel Form	

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Further to our conversations of this morning, following is the Travel Certification Form ..

The Conference is paid for by the Carib News Foundation. The companies are participants, are not sponsors or co-sponsors for any part of the trip and play no role in the planning or content.

The program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants.

I regret the mis-understanding and thank you for holding my hand as I go through and grow through this process which is new to me.

Kindly review and advise before I send to Ms. Olsen.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Registration

From: Thomas, Shelley [Shelley.Thomas@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 7:47 AM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

This is new territory since we never had to go through this before. I don't have an answer and I already turned in Donna's forms.

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 5:56 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn; Thomas, Shelley; Dalley, George
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Please see e-mail I received from Ms. Olson of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

A possible response could be: The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation. As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Please advise us.

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Lewis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's (Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring"

sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(b)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]," which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Gleason

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

09-4403 0186

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 6:49 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Her question centers on whether any of these "co-sponsors" retains a lobbyist or foreign. This is the issue you and I focused on previously. It is a central problem if any do and are paying for the events. If so, you are in the same position as last year with one-day events. Call Susan back tomorrow as early as possible. Hopefully, these co-sponsors don't retain lobbyists, but you should have their representations on this matter. At a minimum, Macy's does, right? Alternatively, if they are only sponsoring event tables or the like, a lobbyist will not be problematic.

Sent using BlackBerry

-----Original Message-----

From: plouls <plouls@nycaribnews.com>
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn; Thomas, Shelley; Dalloy, George
Sent: Wed Oct 10 17:56:25 2007
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Please see e-mail I received from Ms. Olson of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

A possible response could be: The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation. As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Please advise us.

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Loufs

Executive Assistant

CARIB NEWS

7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor

New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Olson, Susan [mailto: Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM

10/10/07

09-4403 0187

To: plouis@uycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-Trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's (Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring" sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]," which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

10/10/2007

09-4403 0188

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000066

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson
Counsel
House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
RT-2, The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7103
Fax: 202-225-7392

10/10/2007

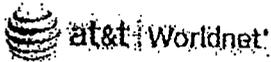
09-4403 0189

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000067

From: Shelley Thomas

Page 1 of 1



[Print] [Close]

From: "Thomas, Shelley" <Shelley.Thomas@mail.house.gov>
"James, Corliss" <Corliss.James@mail.house.gov>, "Long, Karyn" <Karyn.Long@mail.house.gov>,
"Bishop, Mary" <Mary.Bishop@mail.house.gov>, "Chaplin, Jennie"
<Jennie.Chaplin@mail.house.gov>, "Pickens, Crystal" <Crystal.Pickens@mail.house.gov>, "Hamlett,
Barbara" <Barbara.Hamlett@mail.house.gov>, "Hendricks, Jasper"
<Jasper.Hendricks@mail.house.gov>, "Dalley, Katie" <Katie.Dalley@mail.house.gov>,
"GA04Scheduling" <GA04Scheduling@mail.house.gov>, "Murray, Darlene"
<Darlene.Murray@mail.house.gov>, "Fisher, Pat" <Pat.Fisher@mail.house.gov>, "Feathersen,
Wendy" <Wendy.Feathersen@mail.house.gov>, "Pittman, Megan" <MPittman@mail.house.gov>,
To: "King, Lalla" <Lalla.King@mail.house.gov>, "Resendez, Marvene"
<Marvene.Resendez@mail.house.gov>, "Kalliga, Tatyana" <Tatyana.Kalliga@mail.house.gov>,
"Taylor, Gerri" <Gerri.Taylor@mail.house.gov>, "Anderson, Kwamme (Waters)"
<Kwamme.Anderson@mail.house.gov>, "Howie, Elisa" <Elisa.Howie@mail.house.gov>, "Borja,
Angie" <Angie.Borja@mail.house.gov>, "Roddey, Raven" <raven.roddey@mail.house.gov>,
"Waskow, Jean" <Jean.Waskow@mail.house.gov>, "Holmes, Alice M."
<Alice.M.Holmes@mail.house.gov>, "Epps, Nkema" <Nkema.Epps@mail.house.gov>, "Johnson, Aya"
<Aya.Johnson@mail.house.gov>
Cc: <carib-desk@att.net>
Subject: Emailing 110th rule change page
Date: Thu, 4 Oct 2007 16:36:27 +0000

To the CBC Members who indicated a "yes" or "maybe" in attending the Carib News Foundation Business Conference in Antigua, British West Indies on November 8-11 of 2007, I have attached the web site for the travel form that must be submitted by members no later than TUESDAY, October 9 to the Ethics Committee. I will be bringing copies of the agenda, as well as copies of the ethics form that Carib News had to complete and submit to Ethics, to all of the offices indicated above, today and tomorrow by noon. If anyone has any questions, please call me at 5-1790. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT MEMBERS HAVE THEIR OFFICIAL PASSPORT, AS WE ARE GOING TO A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

The message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments:

Shortcut to: http://www.house.gov/ethics/110th_rule_change_page.htm

Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled.
<<110th_rule_change_page.url>>

Attachment 1: [110th_rule_change_page.url](#) (application/octet-stream)

09-4403 0190

<http://webmail.sft.net/wmc/n/wm/47056C17000D0D2F00002DBD2160376223659C0A0B...> 10/4/2007

CONFIDENTIAL

01 000000

New Travel Regulations, Forms, and Instructions (effective March 1, 2007):

The House Rules for the 110th Congress changed the travel rules for Members, staff, and outside sponsors. Regulations, forms, and instructions governing privately-sponsored travel taking place after March 1, 2007 are available below. An Advisory Memorandum providing additional guidance regarding travel was released on March 15, 2007. New versions of the forms relating to privately-sponsored travel were released April 6, 2007.

- Travel Guidelines and Regulations
- Instructions and Certification Form to be filled out by Private Sponsors
- Traveler Form to be filled out by Members, Officers, and Employees
- Post-Travel Disclosure Form for Members and Officers
- Post-Travel Disclosure Form for Employees

Please note: Both the Private Sponsor Certification and the Member/Officer/Employee Traveler Forms must be filed with the Committee at the same time in order to process your request.

New Gift Rule Changes:

The House Rules for the 110th Congress amended House Rule 25, clause 5 (the "gift rule") with respect to the acceptance of gifts and travel. Some of the guidance on this website regarding gifts and travel may therefore no longer apply. On February 6, 2007, the Committee issued an advisory memorandum on the changes to the gift rule. On May 24, 2007, the House amended the gift rule exception concerning the acceptance of offers of free attendance at charity events. In view of the amendment, on June 14, 2007, the Committee issued a revised memorandum that incorporates the change to the rule. Please contact Committee staff at 202-225-7103 with any questions.

Financial Interests under New Earmark Rules

The House Rules for the 110th Congress changed the Code of Official Conduct regarding earmarks. This provision requires that a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner who requests an earmark or a limited tax or tariff benefit to provide certain information regarding the request and its purpose to the committee of jurisdiction. An Advisory Memorandum providing guidance in this matter was released on March 27, 2007.

Registration

From: Smith, Hillary [Hillary.Smith@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2007 4:32 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Travel Approval Forms for Antigua Trip

Patricia,

Here is what I need fixed --

12 -- Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting this trip -- The answer should say something about how Carib News organized, planned, pulled together the invitee list and chose the destination.

13 -- Describe the organizational interest -- It is the Carib News Annual conference.

The revised forms, along with the list of invitees, should be sent to each invitee to then send to the committee so that we do not receive the wrong forms from the Congressional offices. Let me know if you have any questions.

Hillary Smith

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol

Washington, DC 20515

202-225-7103

10/4/2007

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2007 2:02 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Please read query below

Ignore the last email b/c we are working to meet the 30-day submission. Just stand by so we can get back in touch today, have it all resolved tomorrow. Monday is a holiday.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2007 12:39 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Please read query below

Thank you. We have assigned your review to Staff Attorney Susan Olson. Please reach her by phone at 202/226-8808 next week if she has not reached out to you. She will need a few days of review. Thank you very much.

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 6:40 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Please read query below

The Conference dates are November 8-11, 2007, and opens on Thursday November 8 and ends the morning of November 11, 2007- (3 nights)

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is the Sponsor of the event.

Item No. 12: The companies like Pfizer, AT&T are donors/contributors of grants to the Foundation for educational purposes and NOT the SPONSOR, consequently I assume the information contained in that item will have to be changed.

Awaiting your advice.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM

10/3/2007

09-4403 0193

Registration

From: plouls [plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 6:40 PM
To: 'Kelly Mobley, Dawn'
Subject: RE: Please read query below

The Conference dates are November 8-11, 2007, and opens on Thursday November 8 and ends the morning of November 11, 2007. (3 nights)

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is the Sponsor of the event.

Item No. 12: The companies like Pfizer, AT&T are donors/contributors of grants to the Foundation for educational purposes and **NOT the SPONSOR**, consequently I assume the information contained in that item will have to be changed.

Awaiting your advice.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Please read query below

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:08 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Query

We are trying to work through a problem in approving the co-sponsors piece. Are they each paying for a one-day, widely attended event or more days? Please read the Gift Rules I forwarded you on this matter.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2007 12:42 PM
To: plouls

10/1/2007

09-4403 0194

Please forward the paperwork as well to the Chairwoman's personal office so her scheduler can complete the work from that office. Please get it to Lalla King today, Her fax number is 202/225-1339. She has to complete the Member's forms and meet the same deadline.

From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 6:40 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Please read query below

The Conference dates are November 8-11, 2007, and opens on Thursday November 8 and ends the morning of November 11, 2007. (3 nights)

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is the Sponsor of the event.

Item No. 12. The companies like Pfizer, AT&T are donors/contributors of grants to the Foundation for educational purposes and NOT the SPONSOR, consequently I assume the information contained in that item will have to be changed.

Awaiting your advice.

Regards

Patricia Lords
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Please read query below

09-4403 0195

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 6:10 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Please read query below

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:08 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Query

We are trying to work through a problem in approving the co-sponsors piece. Are they each paying for a one-day, widely attended event or more days? Please read the Gift Rules I forwarded you on this matter.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2007 12:42 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: Query

I am working through your forms before leaving them with our staff attorney and have a question. Query: Why did you not list CARIB NEWS as the sponsor as you'd indicated instead of Macy's, etc. The official sponsor for travel, lodging, and planning is still Carib News, correct?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2007 12:57 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007 Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

When you send the draft agenda, please also forward any information on your sponsor's status. If he cannot be a lobbyist. Do you need a copy of the new travel rules?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 5:53 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007 Business Conference

Nothing was attached to this email. Therefore, we have not received the proposed agenda you mention below and have nothing to preview.

From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 3:47 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: Draft Program - 2007 Business Conference

Ms. Mobley:
We spoke earlier re permission for Members to attend the Conference and you asked for

The program, I have not gotten back to you because we have been working on getting the program together.
Attached is the draft for your guidance.

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018



THE NEW YORK CARIB NEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 4th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	Dawn Kelly Mobley	FROM:	Patricia Louis
COMPANY:		DATE:	9/21/07
TAX NUMBER:	202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:	
RE:	SPONSOR FORMS		
<input type="checkbox"/> URGENT <input type="checkbox"/> FOR REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE REPLY <input type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION			

Following is a completed form for your advisement /review/ comments:

Regards

09-4403 0198

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

Carib News Foundation

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): _____

2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): each representatives spouse is invited or one family member.

6. Dates of travel: November 8-11, 2007
7. Cities of departure -- destination -- return: Varies depending on member

8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was de minimis under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
 - a. One night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two nights' lodging and meals are being offered:If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: Pfizer-Education/Health
AT&T and IBM: provide technology to the region. MACY's - seeks new vendor sources, Citibank- opportunities
in the region.

13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: Regular scheduled air service,
economy class.

14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted:

15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):

16. I represent that either (check one of the following):

a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: or

b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation:
If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided):

17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: A Caribbean country that has not previously
hosted the conference.

18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: Sandals Resort/Rex Resort

19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$110.00

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: Has appropriate meeting rooms

21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	320	330	195
For each accompanying family member	320	0	195

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee:		
For each accompanying family member:		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Name and title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

Fax number: _____

Email Address: _____

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
 U.S. House of Representatives
 HT-2, The Capitol
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)
 (202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT THE PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL
CERTIFICATION FORM

1. *Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip):* Fill in the names of each person, organization, or other entity contributing funds or in-kind support towards the trip.
2. *I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent:* House Members and staff may not accept travel funded by a lobbyist or registered foreign agent, even when the lobbyist or foreign agent will be reimbursed by a client or employer.
3. *I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip:* All financial contributors to the trip must qualify as sponsors and should be listed as a sponsor in response to question 1.
4. *Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?* Check yes or no. House Rules permit Members and House staff to accept travel benefits for one accompanying family member if offered by the trip sponsor.
5. *Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited:* You must list every House Member and employee who is invited on the trip, together with your reason for inviting that individual. Members and House staff may accept privately sponsored travel only when related to the individual's official duties. The explanation should demonstrate a connection between the trip and each invitee's official duties.
6. *Dates of Travel:* State the dates of departure and return.
7. *Cities of departure - destination - return:* For example, an appropriate entry might read: "DC - Detroit - DC". Include additional destinations if there will be more than one. Do not list the names of airports, times of flights, or cities where travelers will have an airport layover (this information should be included in the attached detailed agenda).
8. *Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel:* The agenda should be a detailed, hour-by-hour agenda. Include the names of speakers and the subjects of briefings. The agenda should also include information regarding the time spent on travel to and from the destination, as well as local travel. Travel will not be approved if the agenda includes an excessive amount of either unscheduled time and/or opportunities for recreational activities, even if such activities are at the personal expense of the invitees.

09-4403 0202

9. *I represent that (check one of the following):* Check only one box in response to this question. "Institutions of higher education" generally includes accredited public and private colleges or trade schools located in the U.S. and its territories; such entities should check box "a," regardless of whether they employ or retain a federal lobbyist or foreign agent. Entities other than institutions of higher education that do not employ or retain a federal lobbyist or foreign agent should check box "b." Entities other than institutions of higher education that do employ or retain a registered lobbyist or foreign agents may sponsor travel only for one-day events. For such trips, lobbyist involvement must be "de minimis" as defined by Committee regulations (see question 12).
10. *If travel is for participation in a one-day event, check one of the following:* Complete this question only if you checked box "c" in response to question 9. For travel to one-day events sponsored by an entity that retains or employs a lobbyist, lodging and meals generally may be provided only for one night. However, two nights may be authorized by the Committee in accordance with the factors set forth in Committee regulations.
11. *If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip:* House Rules prohibit Members and employees from being accompanied by registered lobbyists or foreign agents while traveling. This rule does not prohibit lobbyist or foreign agent participation in briefings or meetings that occur at the destination.
12. *Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:* The sponsor(s) (the entity or entities paying for the trip) should be the entity primarily responsible for organizing the trip. Travel may not be accepted from an entity that merely contributes money towards the travel and is not otherwise involved in planning or conducting the trip.
13. *Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip:* Briefly describe the interest or purpose of each sponsor in the trip.
14. *Describe the type and class of transportation being provided:* See directions on form.
15. *I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s):* While Members and staff may accept local transportation necessary in facilitating their participation in officially-connected aspects of a trip, Members and staff may not accept local transportation in connection with recreation or entertainment.
16. *I represent that either:* For events that are arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation (e.g., annual meetings of business or trade associations), Members or employees may accept the meals that are provided to all other attendees as part of the event. For events put on specifically for Members or staff, meal expenses must be "reasonable" in accordance with Committee regulations.

17. *Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:* The destination of a trip must be related to its purpose. Travel to a location of an event organized without regard to congressional participation (for example, annual meetings of business or trade associations) is presumptively reasonable.
18. *Name of hotel or other lodging facility:* Include the names of all hotels and lodging facilities to be used during the trip.
19. *Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility:* Self-explanatory. Trip sponsors should not pay for a "package" that includes recreational or entertainment activities. However, Members and staff may generally use a pool or gym facilities that are offered free of charge to all hotel guests.
20. *Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:* For events held without regard to congressional participation (e.g., annual meetings of business or trade associations), an entry such as "location of annual trade association meeting" is sufficient. When the trip is held specifically for Members or staff, include rationale such as proximity to the site to be visited or to the airport.
21. *Total Expenses for Each Participant:* Indicate whether the figures provided are actual amounts or good faith estimates by checking the appropriate box. All trip expenses should be included. Expenses other than those for transportation, lodging and meals must be individually listed and specified.
22. *I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip:* Members and staff may not accept a lump sum based on an estimate of incidental expenses.
23. *Certification Information:* Self-explanatory.

THE TRIP SPONSOR SHOULD PROVIDE A COPY OF THE COMPLETED FORM, INCLUDING ALL ATTACHMENTS, TO EACH HOUSE MEMBER OR EMPLOYEE INVITED ON THE TRIP.

Version Date 4/2007 Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Washington, DC 20515

October 27, 2006

Ms. Michèle Rodney
Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

Dear Ms. Rodney:

This responds to your letter requesting Committee guidance concerning the participation of House Members in the 11th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference ("Conference") sponsored by the Carib News Foundation ("Foundation"), and other organizations. The conference is scheduled to take place in Panama City, Panama from November 9 to 12, 2006. According to your submission, the Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]," which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct strongly encourages outside organizations considering whether to offer travel expenses to House Members and staff to contact our offices for information about the rules governing the acceptance of such an offer. It is important to bear in mind, however, that the Committee is authorized by the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives to render advisory opinions to Members, officers, and employees regarding the propriety of current or proposed conduct. We do not render such opinions to private organizations. Particularly in the case of travel, it is the Member, officer, or employee who is at risk in the case of a violation of the rules. Given the different circumstances in which individual Members and employees find themselves, it would be inappropriate for an outside organization to suggest that a trip had been "pre-cleared" by the Committee. However, we are able to provide you with some general information.

According to your submission, the additional trip sponsors include Macy's, Jerk QZins, Pfizer, AT&T, Golden Reef Procellidate, American Airlines, Citibank, IBM, Panama City, and the Republic of Panama.

09-4403 0205

Ms. Michèle Rodney
October 27, 2006
Page 2

House Rule 25, clause 5 (the gift rule) permits a Member or employee of the House to accept from a private source (other than a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal) the necessary travel expenses to attend a meeting, speaking engagement, fact-finding trip, or similar event in connection with official duties, if the private source is directly and immediately associated with the event or location being visited. "Necessary" expenses include reasonable expenses for transportation, lodging, food, and refreshments, but they do not include expenditures for entertainment or recreational activities.

Generally, any gifts that may be offered during the trip, including any gifts of entertainment or recreational activity, must be valued at a total of less than \$50 for the trip, with the annual gift limit of less than \$100 from a single source. On any trip, the aggregate value of any such gifts that may be accepted from any source is less than \$50.

In the case of international travel, necessary expenses may be accepted for not more than seven days, excluding travel. House Members may also accept expenses to enable one family member to accompany them on the trip, if offered by the trip sponsor. In addition, each Member who participates in the trip must complete a Travel Disclosure and file this form with the Clerk of the House within 30 days after their return. See House Rule 25, cl. 5(b)(1)(A)(ii), (b)(3). Members are also required to report all travel expenses totaling more than \$305 from a single source on Schedule VII of their annual Financial Disclosure Statement under the Ethics in Government Act and House Rule 26. On both forms, Members should indicate as the "trip sponsors" all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip.

Because the trip will involve meetings with foreign government representatives and the trip sponsors include the Republic of Panama and Panama City, it is important to note that government officials, including Members and employees of Congress, are prohibited by Article I, section 9, clause 8, of the United States Constitution from receiving "any present . . . of any kind whatever" from a foreign state or a representative of a foreign government without the consent of the Congress. In the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (5 U.S.C. § 7342) ("FGDA"), Congress has consented in advance to acceptance of gifts of travel or expenses for travel taking place entirely outside of the United States offered by a foreign government. Gifts of travel or expenses for travel include food, lodging, transportation, and entertainment related to the official duties of a Member, officer, or employee. Congress has also consented to the acceptance of gifts "of minimal value tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy." 5 U.S.C. § 7342(d)(1)(A). Under this provision and implementing regulations issued by this Committee, the term "minimal value" is defined as \$305. The FGDA also permits Members and staff to accept a gift worth more than minimal value when refusal would cause offense or embarrassment; such gifts are the property of the United States and must be deposited with the Clerk of the House. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value or travel expenses of any value received from a foreign government pursuant to FGDA must be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments, in addition to the

09-4403 0206

000/000

S&S NEWS

03/20/2006 03:43 FAX

Ms. Michele Rodney
October 27, 2006
Page 3.

travel disclosure form described above. Copies of both forms are available on the Committee Web site.

Any House Members invited to travel at private expense should be encouraged to contact this Committee's Office of Advice and Education at (202) 225-7103 if they have any questions on the applicable rules. Please provide a copy of this letter to each invited Member.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,


Doc Hastings
Chairman


Howard L. Berman
Ranking Minority Member

DH/HLB:alo

09-4403 0207

004/004

SEN BUNO

03/20/2009 03:43 FAX



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

October 16, 2006

The Honorable Doc Hastings
Chair
Standards of Official Conduct
Rm. HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Via Fax: 202-225-7392 & US Mail

Dear Committee Chair Hastings:

As you might be aware, The Carib News Foundation, created to provide a forum for businesses from the United States to dialogue and establish business partnerships with communities in other parts of the world, has invited Members of Congress to participate in the 11th anniversary of the Caribbean Business Conference.

This year the conference will be held in Panama City, Panama from November 9 – 12, 2006. In cooperation with the Government of Panama, our goal is to have all interested parties joining forces to foster an atmosphere of democracy, stability and opportunity for our fellow citizens of the world. It will also allow businesses in the United States to introduce their products to a new market, thus adding to the economy of both countries.

It is important for Members of Congress to attend in order to get insights into the global economy and how current law and proposed legislation can add in assisting their constituents to move towards a global exchange.

To this effort, The Carib News Foundation and its Board of Directors, respectfully request approval for the Members to attend. If there are any questions or concerns, you may contact me at 212-944-1991. I look forward to making this event as successful in its 11th year as it has been in the past 10 conferences.

Sincerely,

Michelo Rodney
President
Carib News Foundation

cc: Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs-Jones

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C-3 corporation

09-4403 0208

900/2007

CARIB NEWS

09/20/2009 09:48 FAX

CONFIDENTIAL

980000086

Registration

From: plouls [plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2007 1:56 PM
To: 'Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Re Sponsorship information

The official sponsor of the conference is the CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION, a not-for-profit 501C3 Organization that provides educational information about the Caribbean Region and its relationship with the US in doing business and developing good neighborly ties with the United States, security, health, education etc.

The CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION does not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent.

Please use me as your contact for the purposes of this Conference.

The form will be emailed to you this afternoon.

Regards

Patricia Louis

Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

9/21/2007

09-4403 0209

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000087

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 6:32 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Sponsorship Information

My condolences. No, we did not know of their loss. Is Mr. Rodney our actual contact in this matter? If so when appropriate, please impress upon him that the rules have changed dramatically and there are certain gifts and travel that can no longer be permitted so we need to clear this as early as possible. Moreover as he probably remembers, all Members have to seek approval for their individual travel...forms must be prepared, submitted, and approved for each Member's travel. Therefore, please remember to provide each of your invitees with the requisite paperwork. Hopefully by preparing early, we can circumvent the majority of problems you faced in securing their congressional travel last year. Have a good evening and please share my condolences with the Rodneys. Dawn

Sent using BlackBerry

-----Original Message-----

From: plouls <plouls@nycaribnews.com>
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wed Sep 19 18:23:58 2007
Subject: Sponsorship Information

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 3:23 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Lastly, just send the sponsor form asap for review. The new rules might prohibit some things you were able to do with so many different sponsors in the past, but until we get the form, we can't make the most informed decision. I have let the Congresswomen know we are awaiting your sponsor form. Just as you do, they would also like assurance. Thank you.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 3:09 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

I am mailing (US Postal) a copy of the official Gifts and Travel Guide. Some pages are omitted so call with any questions not addressed in the bound pages. I am using the address you provide in your emails.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 2:16 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Patricia:

I understand that several organizations will take part in sponsoring food and other parts of the Antigua travel. However, I need clarification on the *official* sponsor; that organization providing travel, lodging, and organizing the trip? Am I to assume it is CARIB NEWS? The official sponsoring organization must not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent (and the sponsor must have a direct and immediate relationship with the event or location being visited). To assist with this, I am scanning information/guidelines and emailing in just a moment. Please provide a fax number if that method of submittal will be more helpful. If there is someone handling this matter, please provide me their direct contact information as I must ensure adherence to these new guidelines pre-travel.

In any event, I do need to know who the official sponsor will be. I have assigned a staff attorney to review your documents and will remain in contact with you until this matter is finalized.

Please respond today or tomorrow at the latest. I will be traveling for a while thereafter and must ensure that my staff attorney has all that is necessary for a safe review.

Dawn Kelly Mobley
Ethics Counsel for Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones
Chairwoman, Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
202/226-7103

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2007 7:03 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

~~None of these organizations have or retain a lobbyist~~

Sent using BlackBerry

09-4403 0211

We had received the forms from Shelley.

The sponsors to date are : MACYS, PFIZER, AMERICAN AIRLINES, GOLDEN KRUST BAKERY, CARIBBEAN FOOD DELIGHTS, PREFERRED HEALTH PARTNERS, IBM, AT&T/INGULAR

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2007 12:57 PM

To: plouls

Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

|| When you send the draft agenda, please also forward any information on your sponsor's status. If/He cannot be a lobbyist. Do you need a copy of the new travel rules?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn

Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 5:53 PM

To: 'plouls'

Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference

Nothing was attached to this email. Therefore, we have not received the proposed agenda you mention below and have nothing to preview.

From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycaribnews.com]

Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 3:47 PM

To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn

Subject: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference

Ms. Mobley:

We spoke earlier re permission for Members to attend the Conference and you asked for the program. I have not gotten back to you because we have been working on getting the program together.

Attached is the draft for your guidance

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

9/20/2007

09-4403 0212

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000090

Exhibit 18

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): EACH REPRESENTATIVE'S SPOUSE
6. Dates of travel: NOVEMBER 8 - 11, 2007
7. Cities of departure -- destination -- return: VARIES DEPENDING ON MEMBER
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
- The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, or organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
- One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered:
- If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (SEE ATTACHED SHEET)

13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: THE INTEREST OF CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION IS TO PROMOTE, INFORMATION, TRADE AND MEANINGFUL CONNECTION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE CARIBBEAN

14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted: REGULAR SCHEDULED AIR SERVICE, ECONOMY CLASS

15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):

16. I represent that either (check one of the following):
a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: *or*
b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation:
If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____

17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: A CARIBBEAN COUNTRY THAT HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY HOSTED THE CONFERENCE

18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: SANDALS RESORT/REX RESORT

19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$10.00

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: HAS APPROPRIATE MEETING ROOMS

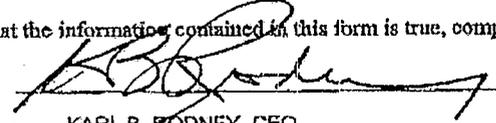
21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	320	330	115
For each accompanying family member	320	0	115

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee		
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

Address: 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10018

Telephone number: 212-944-1991

Fax number: 212-944-2089

Email Address: CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
 U.S. House of Representatives
 HT-2, The Capitol
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)
 (202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

2007 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE			
NOVEMBER 8 -11, 2007			
INVITED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS			
Sanford Bishop			
G. K.Butterfield			
Donna M. Christensen			
William Lacy Clay			
Sheila Jackson Lee			
Eddie Bernice Johnson			
Keridrick Meek			
Donald Payne			
Charles Rangel			
Bernie Thompson			
Stephanie Tubbs-Jones			
Carolyn Kilpatrick			
Barbara Lee			
Gregory Meeks			
Edolphus Towns			
Yvette Clarke			
Maxine Waters			
James Clyburn			
David Scott			
Laura Richardson			
Eleanor Holmes-Norton			
Elijah Cummings			
Diane Watson			
Keith Ellison			
Henry Johnson			
Melvin Watt			
Albert Wynn			
John Lewis			
Britt Weinsteck			
George Dalley			



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

Exhibit 19

WORKING DRAFT

12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National

Business Conference Program

Antigua & Barbuda

Thursday, November 8, 2007

12:00 noon - 6:00 pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

4:00 - 5:30 pm : COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Venue

Theme

WTO - RULES BASED TRADE & POVERTY REDUCTION

Speakers

Hon. Charles Kangel - Member of Congress

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Hon. Dr. Errol Cort - Minister of Finance & The Economy

Moderator

Wallace Ford

Facilitator

MEC Interns

Sponsor

ED

6:30 - 7:30 pm

OPENING RECEPTION

Venue:

Sandals Grande

Theme:

CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES

Sponsor:

Antigua Government

MC: Sabrina Hosang

Speakers: Faye A. Rodney - President CARIB NEWS

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

7:50 - 9:30 pm

Venue: Sandals Grande

Theme: COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Sponsor: SANDALS

Moderator: Hon. Nick Perry, New York State Assemblyman

Speakers: Hon. Butch Stewart, Chairman, Sandals

Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress

Hon. Harold Lowell - Minister of Tourism & Aviation

Entertainment:

10:00pm - 1:00am: Hospitality Area

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsors: - Royal Caribbean Bakery

Friday, November 9, 2007

8:00am - 8:45am BREAKFAST - Buffet Style

9:00am - 6:00pm CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

9:00am - 10:15am OPENING CEREMONIES

Venue: Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Theme: CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES, COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Sponsor:

CLIFFHILL MACYS AT&T

MC

Invocation:

Anthems:

Speakers:

Eric Eve

Karen Boykin-Towns

Ed Goldberg

Marie Long

Hazel Dukas - NAACP

Speakers: Hon. Erol Cort, Minister of Finance & The Economy

Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress

Ambassador Andrew Young

Hon. Louise Lake Tack - Governor General of Antigua

OR

Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Ribbon Cutting

10:30am - 11:45am - PRESENTATION

Theme: - DEVELOPMENT BANKS, PRIVATE DEBT AND EQUITY

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsors: CIP

Chair/Moderator: Jacqueline Ebanks

Speaker: Hon. Maxine Walters - Member of Congress

Hon. William Lacy Clay - Member of Congress

Hon. Compton Bourne - President, CDB

Hon. Keith Mitchell - Minister of Finance, JBD

12:00noon - 1:15pm

Theme: NATIONAL SECURITY : A PRE-CONDITION FOR SUCCESS

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsors: HSBC

Moderator: Dr. Basil Wilson

Remarks: Reginald Canal

Keynote Speaker: Hon. Bennie Thompson - Member of Congress

Panelists: Hon. William Lacy Clay Jr. - Member of Congress

Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Hon. Colin V. A. Derrick - Minister of Justice

Attorney Sanford Rubenstein

12:00 noon - 1:15 pm

Theme

EDUCATION - US AND CARIBBEAN SYNERGIES TO
OVERCOME - CHALLENGES

Sponsors

IBM

Remarks

Manilyn Johnson

Speakers

Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President Medgar Evers College

Hon. Donald Payne - Member of Congress

Hon. Bertrand Joseph

Hon. G. K. Butterfield - Member of Congress

1:30 - 2:00 p.m. -

LUNCH

Theme

CARIBBEAN TRADE COMPETITIVENESS AND POSITIONING

Venue

Sandals Grande

Sponsors

Goodworks International

Remarks

Carlton Masters

Keynote Speaker -

Hon. Billie Miller - Minister of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade

Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

3:00pm - 4:00pm -

ROUND TABLES

IMMIGRATION

Venue:

Moderator:

Dr. Marco Mason

Speakers:

Hon. Sheila Jackson Lee - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Hon. Kendall Stewart - City Council member

Sponsor:

Royal Caribbean Bakery

DIVERSITY IN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

MACY'S - Outside Vendors

Ed Goldberg

Cheryl Monroe

State Senator Kevin Parker

City Council member Al Vann

Sponsor - MACY'S

HAIH - IN TRANSFORMATION

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvonne Graham

Preferred Health Partners

PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES

Moderator : Lance Ogiste

Hon. Bennie Thompson

Dr. Basil Wilson

Venue

Sponsor

Preferred Health Partners

Speakers

Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress
Hon. Eliot Engel - Member of Congress
CARICOM Rep. - JBD

Venue

Sponsor

Goodworks International

Sppeaker

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress
CARICOM REP. - IJD

4:00pm - 5:30pm

Venue:

Off Site

Theme

HEALTH - COMMON ISSUES - PROVEN SOLUTIONS

Sponsor

Pfizer

Remarks

Karen Boykin-Towns

Moderator

Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

Keynote Speakers: Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Hon. Dr. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Hon. John Herbert Maginley - Minister of Health, Sports & Youth

Dr. Dexter McKenzie

Facilitator: MEC Intern

ED

6:30:00pm - 10:00:00pm - HOSIERS GOUNTIN EVENING

Hosted by Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer

MANDATORY FOR ALL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO ATTEND

Venue: Off Site

Sponsor: Antigua & Barbuda

10:00pm - 1:00am - Hospitality Area

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsor: Golden Krust

Saturday, November 10, 2007

8:00am - 10:00am

Venue: Sandals Grande

Theme: WOMEN AND EMPOWERMENT IN THE DIASPORA

Sponsors: MACYS

Remarks - Brenda Scott - Macy's

MC - Marilyn Johnson

Speakers - Michele Obama (invited)

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Hon. Diane Abbott - Member of Parliament, UK

Baroness Patricia Scotland - Attorney General, UK (HONORARY)

Harriet Michel - President NMSDC

Governor General - Daniel Spouge, NMSDC

10:15am - 11:45pm - PRESENTATION

Theme - HEALTH - REAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN UPGRADING CARE AND DELIVERY

Venue - Sandals Grande

Sponsors - Pfizer

Greeting - Karen Boykin-Towns - Pfizer

Chair/Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham

Keynote - Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Panelists - Dr. Dexter McKenzie

Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Dr. Lesly Kernisant

Dr. Marcia Bayne-Smith

Caribbean person - TBD

10:15am-11:45am

Theme

TRAVEL & TOURISM EXPANSION: THE DIASPORANS

CATALYST

Venue

Sponsors

AMERICAN AIRLINES/SANDALS

Chair/Moderator

Elroy Williams

Speakers

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress

Hon. Keith Ellison - Member of Congress

Hon. Allan Chastanet - Minister of Tourism, St. Lucia

Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Tourism, Antigua & Barbuda

10:15 am-11:45am

PRESENTATION

Theme

TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION - SHARING

Venue:

Sandals Grande

Sponsors:

AT&T

Remarks

Marie Long

Keynote Speakers:

Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Dr. Edmond Mansoon - Member of State

12:00noon - 1:15pm -

Theme: INTEGRATING THE DIASPORA IN BUSINESS - INVESTORS
MANAGERS, MENTORS & TRAINERS

Venue:

Sandals Grande

Sponsor:

HSBC

Remarks:

Jamaicans

Speakers:

Hon. Compton Bourne

Dr. Roy Hasick

Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress

Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress

Hon. William Lacy Clay Jr. - Member of Congress

1:30pm - 2:30pm - LUNCH

Theme: FINANCE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS - VALUE

AND ROLE

Sponsors:

- CITI

Remarks:

- Michael Flanigan

Speakers:

- Eric Eve - CITI

Hon. William Thompson, New York City Comptroller

2:30pm - 6:30pm

Optional:

3:00pm - 4:00pm

- ROUND TABLE

Venue

Round Table #1

Theme

CARIBBEAN - A COMPLETE HEALTH CARE DESTINATION

Venue

Sponsors

Preferred Health Partners

Remarks

Dr. Lesly Kernisan

Speakers

Dr. Dexter McKenzie

Dr. Lorna McBurnette

Round Table #2

Theme

HEMISPHERIC DISASTER FUND

Speakers

Hon. Danny Davis - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Dr. Roy Hastick

Venue

Sponsor

Round Table #3

Theme

CLOSING THE GENERATION GAP

Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress

Karlisa Rodney

Lita Balram

Sabrina Hosang

Winthrop Wellington

Venue

Sponsor

Round Table #1

Theme

PASSPORT-&ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRAINTS ON TOURISM

Venue

Sponsor

American Airlines

Speakers

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress
Hon. Harold Lowell - Minister of Tourism
Mr. Lloyd Williams

Sponsor

CARIB NEWS

4:00pm - 5:30pm

COMMUNITY OUTREACH -

EDUCATION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION

Venue:

Off Site

Sponsor

CITI

Moderator:

Michael Flanigan

Speakers:

Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College

Hon. Daunny Davis - Member of Congress

Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Hon. Bertrand Joseph

Facilitator: MEC Intern

ED

6:30 - 7:30pm GALA RECEPTIONS

Venue:

Sponsor: A&E-HSBC

Speaker: Hon. Billie Miller, Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Minister of Government - Antigua

Theme:

7:30 - 10:00 pm GALA DINNER & AWARDS

Theme:

Venue:

Sponsors: CITI/MACY'S/PFIZER

Speakers: Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress
Hon. James Clyburn - Member of Congress

Keynote Speaker: Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Presentation of the Marcus Garvey "Bridge Builder" Awards

Hospitality Area

10:30pm - 1:00am

Venue:

Sponsor:

Royal Caribbean Bakery

Sunday=November-11-2007

8:30 am - 10:00am

POWER BREAKFAST

Theme:

UNDERSTANDING THE SPIRITUAL ROOTS AND
MAKING IT WORK

Sponsors:

Golden Krust/Macys

Celebrant:

Ed Goldberg

Lowell Hawthorne

Caribbean person - TBD

Selection:

Theme:

Selection:

11:00am }

Paid Trip to Montserrat - Transportation (Ferry) - Lunch and
Special Tour . Addressed. by Chief Minister Lowell Lewis

8:00 pm }

10/3/07

OFF-PUBLIC-SCHEDULE-MANDATORY-FOR-MEMBERS-OF-CONGRESS

Friday November 9, 2007

5:30 - 6:30 p.m. - Private Welcome Reception with Governor General

Saturday November 10, 2007

US-CARIBBEAN-RELATIONS

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 pm - Closed Door Meeting
(Mandatory for all Members)

Prime Ministers & Ministers of Government
with Members of Congress
Secretary of State - Condoleezza Rice (Invited)

5:30pm - 6:30pm - Private Meeting with Local Elected Officials and
the Business Community



09-4403 0237

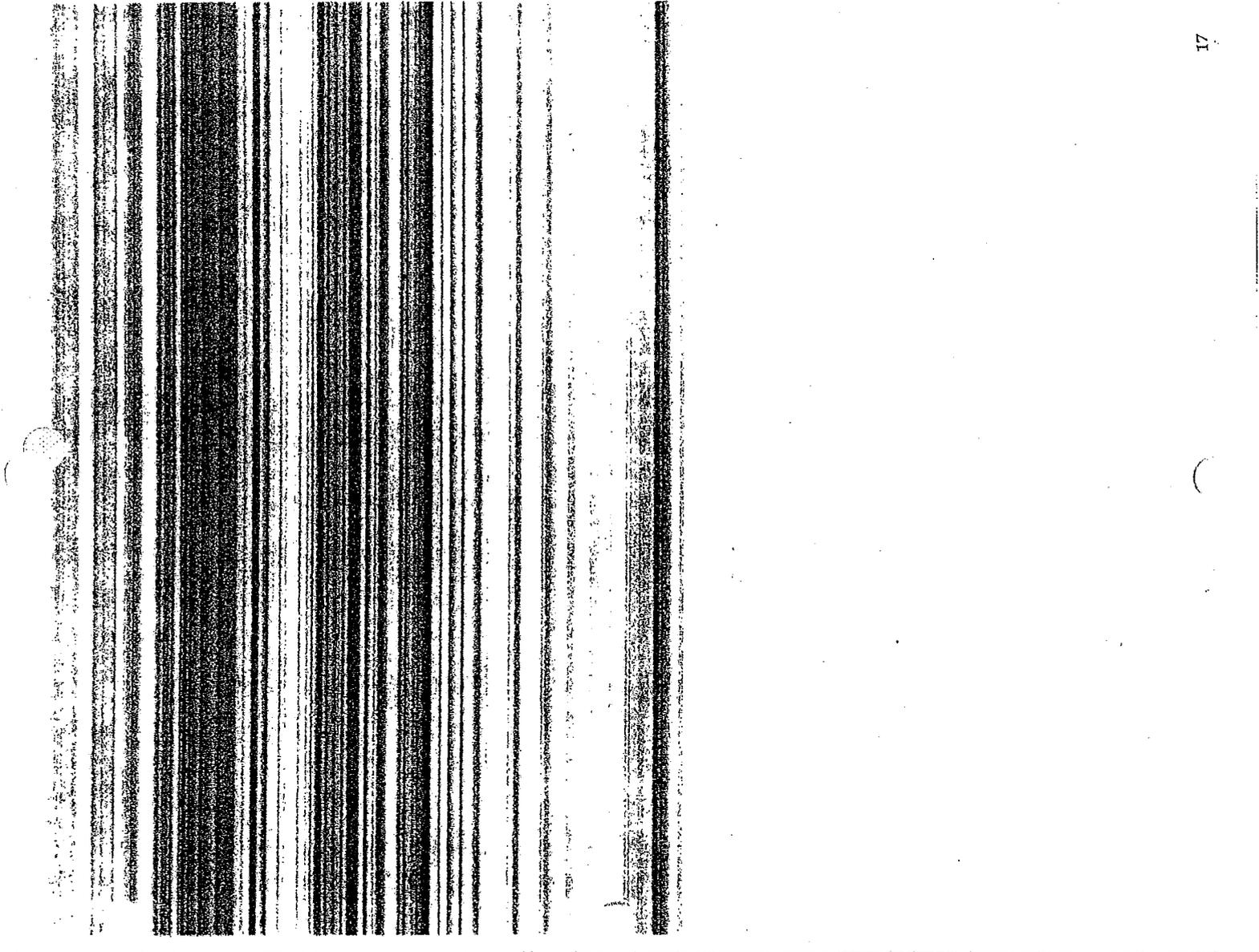


Exhibit 20

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative 1 from Macy's
Review #: 09-6333; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-2222
Date: May 27, 2009
Location: 11 Penn Plaza
New York, NY 10001
Time: 11:10pm to 12:00 p.m. (approximately)
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: Representative 1 from Macy's is the Senior Vice President of Government and Consumer Affairs and Diversity Vendor Development at Macy's, Inc. He was interviewed pursuant to Review 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. We requested an interview with Representative 1 from Macy's and he consented to an interview. Representative 1 from Macy's made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative 1 from Macy's was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. Representative 1 from Macy's signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. [attached]
2. Representative 1 from Macy's met Karl and Faye Rodney in 1996. As a result of the large Caribbean Community in New York City and Macy's commercial interests in the Caribbean region, Representative 1 from Macy's asked Macy's advertizing division to consider the CaribNews newspaper.
3. The first conference he attended was in 1998 in St. Lucia. He attended as a participant. At the time, Macy's was considering a store in Puerto Rico and so Representative 1 from Macy's was especially interested in business in the region. He was impressed by how many government officials from the Caribbean region were present at the conference and by what they had to say about developing relationships with the United States.

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

4. In the ensuing years, Macy's became a sponsor. The conference was a place where the company looked for vendors and designers. It was also a place where they could hear from U.S. legislators about their thoughts on the region. It was also a place for Representative 1 from Macy's to connect with U.S. companies who were attending.
5. Macy's first sponsored the conference in 2000. Over the years they have sponsored the event on an annual basis at varying levels, ranging from \$10,000 to \$35,000. As women's issues are particularly important to Macy's, given their clientele, their sponsorship focuses on the conference's "Women's Power Breakfast." The event was described as very lavish. All attendee of the breakfast also get a Macy's tote bag.
6. In 2008, Macy's contribution to the conference was \$35,000 is cash and an in-kind contribution of 400 tote bags. The total value of the in-kind contribution was \$4,620. The money was earmarked specifically for the conference.
7. As a sponsor, Macy's was given the opportunity to have a representative make opening remarks, to have representation at the Women's Power Breakfast, have input into who the speaker at the breakfast will be, and attend the closed door session with Members of Congress and officials from the Caribbean governments. Representative 1 from Macy's did in fact attend the closed door session in 2008. He recalled that other corporate sponsors also attended the meeting, but he could not recall which ones.
8. Representative 1 from Macy's recalled interacting with Representative Payne, Representative Kilpatrick, Representative Thompson, Representative Rangel, and Delegate Christensen. His interactions were all social in nature.
9. Representative 1 from Macy's was not aware of any other events sponsored by or planned by the CaribNews Foundation. With the exception of the conference, he was not aware of any other instances when Macy's supported a CaribNews Foundation event. Given Representative 1 from Macy's position within the company, it is very likely he would know if Macy's had done so.

I prepared this Memorandum of Interview on May 28, 2009 after interviewing Representative 1 from Macy's on May 27, 2009. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with Representative 1 from Macy's on May 27, 2009.

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

5/27/08

For Office Use:

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 21

Updated Schedule
for Carib News
PAGE 03

WORKING DRAFT 10/22

12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
Antigua & Barbuda

Thursday, November 8, 2007

12:00noon- 6:00pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -

8:00 - 6:30am - COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Venue - Multi-Purpose Cultural Centre - Ferry Bay, St. John's

Theme - WTO - RULES BASED TRADE & POVERTY REDUCTION

Speakers - Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress
 Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
 Hon. Dr. Errol Cort - Minister of Finance & The Economy

Moderator - Tony Best

6:30- 7:30pm - OPENING RECEPTION

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Theme: - CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES

MC: - Judge Sylvain Hinds-Radix

Speakers - Faya A. Rodney - President CARIB NEWS
 Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

7:30 - 9:30 pm -

Theme: - COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Moderator: - Hon. Nick Perry, New York State Assemblyman

Speakers: - Hon. 'Butch' Stewart, Chairman, Sandals
 Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress
 Hon. Harold Lovell - Minister of Tourism & Aviation

10:00pm - 1:00am: - Hospitality Area

Venue: Sandals Grande - Reflective Pool

Friday, November 9, 2007

8:00am - 8:45am BREAKFAST - Buffet Style

9:00am - 6:00pm	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
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9:00am - 10:15am - OPENING CEREMONIES

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Theme: - CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES, COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Remarks:

- Eric Ebe
 Dr. Lowell Lewis, Chief Minister
 Montserrat
 Karen Boylston-Towns
 Ed Goldberg
 Marc Long
 Hazel Duke - NAACP
 William Thompson, NYC Comptroller
 Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Govt. St. Maarten

Greetings

Speakers: Hon. Errol Cort - Minister of Finance & The Economy
 Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress
 Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress

Ambassador Andrew Young
Hon. Louise Lake Tack - Governor General of Antigua
OR
Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Ribbon Cutting

10:30am-11:45am - PRESENTATION
Theme: - DEVELOPMENT BANKS, PRIVATE DEBT AND EQUITY
Venue: - Sandals Grande
Chair/Moderator - Dr. Enrique Riggs
Speaker: Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
Hon. Compton Bourne -- President, CDB
Mr. Milton Lawrence, Chairman Financial Services Corporation
Mr. Rudolph Carryl
Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister/Minister of Finance, St. Kitts

10:30 - 11.45am CULTURE - PROMISE & POTENTIAL IN BUSINESS
Remarks :
Speaker: Professor Rex. Nettleford
Hon. Howard Dotson
Patrick Payne
Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Culture

12:00noon - 1:15pm
Theme: - NATIONAL SECURITY : A PRE-CONDITION FOR SUCCESS
Venue : - Sandals Grande
Moderator - Leyland Hazlewood
Remarks: - Reginald Canal

Keynote Speaker: Hon. Bennie Thompson - Member of Congress
 Panelists: - Hon. Dwyer Astaphan, Minister of National Security
 Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
 Hon. Colin V. A. Derrick - Minister of Justice
 Attorney Sanford Rubenstein

12:00noon -1:15pm

Theme - EDUCATION - U. S AND CARIBBEAN SYNERGIES TO
 OVERCOME CHALLENGES

Remarks - Collin Ward
 Speakers - Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President Medgar Evers College
 Hon. Donald Payne - Member of Congress
 Hon. Bertrand Joseph, Minister of Education

1:30pm -2:30pm - LUNCH

Theme: - FINANCE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION'S - VALUE
 AND ROLE

Remarks - Michael Marigan
 Speakers - Eric Evc - CITI
 Hon. William Thompson, New York City Comptroller

3:00pm - 4:00pm - ROUND TABLES
IMMIGRATION -

Venue: - Sandals Grande
 Moderator - Dr. Marco Mason

Speakers - Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress
 Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
 Hon. Kendall Stewart - City Council member

DIVERSITY IN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

MACY'S - Outside Vendors

Ed Goldberg
 Cheryl Monroe
 State Senator Kevin Parker
 City Councilmember Inez Dickens

HAITI - IN TRANSFORMATION

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
 Hon. Yvonne Graham
 Ambassador Andrew Young

PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES

Moderator : Mr. Lance Ogiste
 Hon. Bennie Thompson
 Hon. Dwer Astephan

Venue Sandals Grande

Participant - Preferred Health Partners

Speakers - Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress

Venue -

Speaker - Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress ?
CARICOM REP. - TBD

5:00pm - 6:30pm -

Venue: - Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Centre - Ferry Bay

Theme - HEALTH - COMMON ISSUES - PROVEN SOLUTIONS - MOVE
Healthy Eating, Healthy Living

Remarks - Ms. Karen Boykin-Towse

Moderator - Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

Keynote Speakers: - Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis
Hon. Dr. Martin Valdes-Preferred Health Partners
Hon. John Herbert Maginley - Minister of Health, Sports & Youth
Dr. John Palmer
Hon. Diane Watson, Member of Congress

6:30:00pm - 10:00 pm - HOST COUNTRY EVENING
Hosted by Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer

Venue - Multipurpose Cultural and Exhibition Centre - Ferry Bay

10:00pm - 1:00am - Hospitality Area

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Reflection Pool

Saturday, November 10, 2007

8:00am - 10:00am

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom
 Theme: - WOMEN AND EMPOWERMENT IN THE DIASPORA

Remarks - Brenda Scott
 MC - Marilyn Johnson
 Speakers - Hon. Diane Abbott, MP UK
 Commissioner Sarah Westcot-Williams,
 Hon. Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick, Member of Congress
 Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress
 Dr. Marcella Maxwell
 Ms. Toni Fay
 Governor General - Dame Louise Lake Tak - check
 Ms. Lucille McEwen, President/CEO HCCI
 Commissioner Westcot-Williams, Leader of Government

10:15am - 11:45pm - PRESENTATION

Theme - HEALTH - REAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN UPGRADING
 CARE AND DELIVERY

Venue - Sandals Grande
 Greeting - Karen Boykin-Towns - Pfizer
 Chair/Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham
 Keynote - Dr. David Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Venue - Sandals Grande
Moderator - Roy Hastick
Participant - HSBC
Remarks - Mr. Javier Evans
Speakers - Hon. Compton Bourne
Hon. Adolfo Carrion, Bronx Borough President
Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress
Hon. Professor Rex Nettleford

1:30 -2:00 p.m. - LUNCH

Theme - CARIBBEAN TRADE COMPETITIVENESS AND POSITIONING

Venue - Sandals Grande
Remarks - Wallace Ford - Goodworks International
Keynote Speaker - Hon. Billie Miller - Minister of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade
Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

2:30pm - 6:30pm

Optional:

3:00pm - 4:00pm - ROUND TABLE

Venue : Sandals Grande

Round Table #1

Theme : CARIBBEAN - A COMPETITIVE HEALTH CARE DESTINATION
Venue
Remarks : Dr. Lesly Kernisatt
Speakers : Dr. Dexter McKenzie
Hon. Yvonne Graham

Round Table#2

Theme - HEMISPHERIC DISASTER FUND
Venue - Sandals Grande
Speakers Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
Mr. Leyland Hazlewood
Mr. Emmanuel Gonsalves
Participant -

Round Table#3

Theme - CLOSING THE GENERATION GAP
Speaker - Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
Karlisa Rodney
Lita Baham
Sabrina Hosang
Wintropo Wellington
Venue - Sandals Grande
Participant -

Round Table #4

Theme : PASSPORT & ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRAINTS ON TOURISM

Venue : Sandals Grande

Speakers : Hon. Harold Lovell - Minister of Tourism
Mr. Lloyd Williams, GHCC
Hon. Darryl Towns, State Assemblyman

5:00pm - 6:30pm - COMMUNITY OUTREACH -

EDUCATION & YOUTH DIRECTION - ACCESS AND
COLLABORATION

Venue: - Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Centre

Moderator: - Michael Hanigan

Speakers: - Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College
Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress
Hon. Bertrand Joseph

6:30 - 7:30pm - GALA RECEPTION

Venue: Sandals Grande

Speaker: - Hon. Stephanie Tubbs-Jones, Member of Congress
Hon. Billie Miller, Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Minister of Government ... Antigua

Theme:

7:30 - 10:00 pm : GALA DINNER & AWARDS
 Theme :
 Venue : Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom
 Speakers : Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress
 Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
 Keynote Speaker : Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer
 Presentation of the Marcus Garvey "Bridge Builder" Awards

Hospitality Area

10:30pm - 1:00am

Venue:

Sunday, November 11, 2007

8:30 am - 10:00am - POWER BREAKFAST
 Theme - UNDERSTANDING THE SPIRITUAL ROOTS AND
 MAKING IT WORK
 Celebrant - Ed Goldberg
 Lowell Hawthorne
 Caribbean person - TBD

Selection

Theme:

Selection:

10/16/07

Exhibit 22

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office
Review #: 09-6333; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-2222
Date: May 27, 2009 and May 28, 2009
Location: Washington, DC (via telephone on May 27, 2009) and at Rayburn HOB 354 (on May 28, 2009)
Time: 4:10pm to 5:30 p.m. (approximately) and 3:30pm to 4:00pm (approximately)
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office is currently the chief of staff of Representative Charles Rangel, a Member of the United States House of Representatives representing the Fifteenth District of New York. He was interviewed pursuant to Review 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. We requested an interview with Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and he consented to an interview. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office's counsel was present. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. [attached]
2. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not attend the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference although he received an invitation. In response to a Request for Information by OCE, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office looked for Representative Rangel's invitation to the conference, but could not find it. He had thought Representative Rangel had received one, but because he could not find the invitation he now thinks that Representative Rangel did not receive one.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

3. Representative Rangel could have been invited orally as he has been attending the conference for years and was seen almost as a partner. He attends the conference because he is dedicated to strengthening the relationships between the Caribbean community, the African-American community of New York City and in general, and the United States.
4. The question of whether Representative Rangel would attend the conference in 2008 was a difficult one because of the negative press he had received throughout the preceding summer. Representative Rangel was cautious about attending because he didn't want to be a target for additional negative publicity, but Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and others on the Member's staff argued that he should go to the conference. They argued that if Representative Rangel did not attend he would be rejecting the friends with whom he helped build the conference and that the Member had to stand up and do the right thing despite the possible negative publicity.
5. Ultimately, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and his staff persuaded the Member to attend. Representative Rangel decided to keep a low profile and, unlike in past years, staff would not attend the conference with the Member.
6. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that the CaribNews Foundation invited the Member. The CaribNews Foundation is the charitable arm of the newspaper. When the rules changed in 2007 and corporations could not be involved as before – i.e. direct contributions to the conference – there was “talk” about how to do the conference in light of the new rules.
7. According to Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office, there was “talk” that the Rodneys needed an entity to create a common fund so that the corporate money could be used to pay for the conference and that the CaribNews Foundation could be used for that purpose.
8. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office initially stated that he did not remember how he was aware of this “talk.” He stated that part of it was his reading of the rules and the supplemental material about how things get done. He then stated that “we” celebrated when Representative Susan Tubbs-Jones was made the chair of the Standards Committee in 2007 because she would try to create a way for Members of Congress to continue to attend the conference. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office then stated that he was made aware of the “talk” through the Rodneys and that the Rodneys told Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office that Representative Tubbs-Jones was going to have her counsel, Dawn Kelly-Mobley, find a way to make the conference work. The Members would have a few more hoops to go through but “we” would find a

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way. Representative Tubbs-Jones would let Ms. Mobley know the conference was a priority and tell her to make it possible. Representative Tubbs-Jones made Ms. Mobley the point of contact on the issue of the conference.

9. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that Representative Rangel also mentioned that Representative Tubbs-Jones told him something similar. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that there was talk about "keeping the conference going." He also stated that "They gave us the framework to keep the conference going." "They" referred to Ms. Mobley and Representative Tubbs-Jones.
10. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember any specific conversations with Ms. Mobley, but he would have had them because he would have wanted to make sure he followed her advice. He stated that the 2007 conversations about Standards Committee finding a way to keep the conference going may have also been with Patricia Louis, the Rodneys office manager.
11. Regarding the structure of the CaribNews Foundation, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office said that the role of the foundation was more formalized as a way to handle the new rules and that it would have come from the Standards Committee staff. The Rodneys were the first people to describe the new structure to Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office following their conversation with Ms. Mobley. The Rodneys told Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office that they could easily comply because they had always done the conference through the foundation. The Rodneys told him that it should have always been called the CaribNews Foundation's conference.
12. Before 2007, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office new that the corporations had a role in the conference because the format was in part to bring businesses together. Members of Congress would talk policy, but the Members' presence was the glamour part of the conference and a way to attract more people. However, policy was not the central focus of the conference. The central focus of the conference was business and increasing investment in the region. The Members of Congress drew government officials from the various Caribbean governments and these government officials drew the businesses.
13. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was aware the involvement of other corporations like AT&T, Macy's, Citi, etc because they were pretty consistent supports of the conference. It was clear they were supporters of the conference financially.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

14. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not talk to Representative Rangel about these matters because the Member does not require that level of detail and does not typically ask for specifics.
15. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember how he became aware of the 2007 rule changes and did not remember attending any briefings or training about the new rules. He thought he was aware of the limits on the number of days a Member could attend an event paid for by an entity that employs a lobbyist, but he was not certain. Mr. Daley did not think he was aware of rules that made an entity that earmarked money for a trip a sponsor of that trip.
16. In response to the question: At the time of the 2007/2008 conferences, how sponsor was defined? Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that the New York CaribNews Foundation was the sponsor of the conference because they were putting on the conference with money from a general fund that would pay for the conference. At that time he became conscious of a need for a 501(c)(3) to be the sponsor.
17. Over the course of several phone calls— most often with Patricia Louis and Faye Rodney, Karl Rodney's wife — Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office learned that he CaribNews Foundation was going to raise money from their traditional donors and other entities.
18. The government of St. Maarten was the lynchpin of the 2008 conference. They were the conference's host and they had specific requirements, as host, that were financial in nature. For instance, when a host government owns a conference center and/or hotel then they give the rooms and conference space for free. If they do not own space, then they have to arrange with a hotel to give rooms and space to the conference at an affordable amount. Other host government support includes police escorts, airport greeting services, and security services. They also host an opening reception and key components of the conference.
19. Although it was not typical, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office became the scheduler for Representative Rangel's travel to the conference in 2008 because he played a part in convincing him to go. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office made the reservations for the Member, but did not remember how he did it or whether the Representative had an e-ticket or a ticket in some other form. He did not remember receiving any airline itinerary documents, but it would have been common practice for him to receive one.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

20. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was shown the pre-travel clearance form submitted to the Standards Committee and stated that he filled it out and the Member signed it. He was shown the post-travel disclosure forms that were submitted to the Standards Committee and stated that he filled them out and the Representative signed them.
21. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office initially said he got the information to fill out the post-travel forms from the Rodneys and stated that he remembered getting a memo from the Rodneys with the cost of the various aspects of the trip on it and that the memo was where he got the dollar amounts for the post-travel forms. He was then asked to explain why the numbers on the post-travel form matched the pre-travel form and not the memo from the Rodneys. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office then said that he could not say for sure that he got the numbers from the memo. He did not remember if the numbers were from the memo or from the pre-travel forms. He was not sure if he checked the cost of the airfare against the airline tickets or if he got it from the pre-travel documents or from the memo.
22. Generally speaking, however, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office would not look behind the numbers given by the Rodneys. He would assume the Rodneys were accurate. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was not certain how it was done, but thought that the accounting for the conference was simple and the information for each Member would be the same. He did not ask the Rodneys for supporting documentation for the numbers on the memo.
23. After the conference, he spoke to Representative Rangel generally about the event. When the article by Susan Crabtree was published there was a lot of talk about the subject of the article with several people. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember with whom he spoke. He then said that he spoke with the Rodneys and the Member. Overall there was an opinion that there could not be anything substantive to the article because the travel was approved by the Standards Committee. It was true that the corporations were at the conference, but they did not have anything to do with their Washington, DC agenda because that's not who attended the conference. His conversations with Representative Rangel were brief and were limited to reassuring him that the office followed the rules and got approval for the travel.
24. After the OCE review was initiated Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office called other members of the Congressional Black Caucus. Representative Rangel asked him to make the calls and to tell them that he would stand by them and offered his help.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

25. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office recalled a conversation with Representative Carolyn Kilpatrick's chief of staff, Kim Rudolph. Ms. Rudolph addressed the comments that Representative Kilpatrick made in which she thanked the sponsors of the conference. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office explained Representative Kilpatrick's statements to OCE by saying that that regardless of who the real sponsor of the event was, when Members thank the corporations it helps the Rodneys put on the conference -- even if the sponsors are not sponsors under the rule. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office also remembered speaking to Shelly Thomas, Delegate Donna Christensen's scheduler, but did not recall the specifics of the conversation.
26. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was not aware of any limits on a private foundation paying for overseas travel. He did not know whether the CaribNews Foundation was a private foundation or a public charity.
27. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was shown a copy of Congressman Rangel's itinerary and a receipt for an electronic ticket. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that he did not remember seeing it before, but that the itinerary was the type of document that would typically be placed in the Congressman's briefing book so that he could provide the information at the airport in order to get his ticket. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office also pointed out that the receipt for the electronic ticket was the sort of document that would only be provided after the Congressman checked in for his flight.

I prepared this Memorandum of Interview on May 28, 2009 after interviewing Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office on May 27, 2009. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office on May 27, 2009.

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

Exhibit 23



THE NEW YORK
CARIBNEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Kelly Mobley FROM: Patricia Louis
COMPANY: Committee on Standards of official conduct DATE: 8/20/08
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392 TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: 2008 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Following is the completed form and attachments re travel for Members of Congress to attend the 2008 Multinational Business Conference scheduled for November 6-9, 2008 in St. Maatten.

Regards

09-4403 0263



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

09-4403 0264

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): BASED ON COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE WHICH IMPACTS US/CARIBBEAN RELATIONS ON WHICH THE MEMBER SERVES,
6. Dates of travel: NOVEMBER 6-8, 2008
7. Cities of departure - destination - return: VARIES - DEPENDING ON MEMBER
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
 - a. One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered:If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

09-4403 0265

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: _____
 CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (* SEE ATTACHED)
13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: _____
 THE INTEREST OF CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION IS TO PROMOTE, INFORM, TRADE AND
 ESTABLISHMENT OF MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE U.S AND THE CARIBBEAN
14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted: _____
 REGULAR SCHEDULED AIR SERVICE, ECONOMY CLASS
15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):
16. I represent that either (check one of the following):
 a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: *or*
 b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:
 If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____
17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: SEE ATTACHED
18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: SONESTA MAHO BEACH RESORT
19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$110.00
20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: HAS APPROPRIATE MEETING ROOMS

21. **TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:**

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	410	260	145
For each accompanying family member	410	0	145

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$150	Conference Registration
For each accompanying family member	\$ 25	Local transportation

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Name and title: _____

KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: _____

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

Address: _____

7 WEST 36th STREET, 8th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

Telephone number: _____

(212) 944-1991

Fax number: _____

(212) 944-2089

Email Address: _____

CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
 U.S. House of Representatives
 HT-2, The Capitol
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)
 (202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INVITED TO THE
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS
CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 6-9, 2008, ST. MAARTEN, N.A.

Congresswoman Diane E. Watson
Congressman David Scott
Congressman James Clyburn
Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez
Congressman Charles Rangel
Congressman Donald Payne
Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
Congressman Edolphus Towns
Congressman G. K. Butterfield
Congressman Gregory Meeks
Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.
Congressman Keith Ellison
Congressman Kendrick Meek
Congresswoman Maxine Waters
Congressman Melvin Watt
Congressman Robert Scott
Congressman William Lacy Clay
Congresswoman Barbara Lee
Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
Congresswoman Corrine Brown
Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
Congressman Danny Davis
Congressman Bennie Thompson
Congresswoman Laura Richardson

July 2008

09-4403 0268



Carib News Foundation

7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017

Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089

Email: info@caribnewsconference.com

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Item #17

A Caribbean country whose proximity to other Caribbean Countries makes it conveniently located for delegates from the other Caribbean countries to attend.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

09-4403 0269

CN-000118

**MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INVITED TO THE
13th Annual Multinational Business Conference
St. Maarten, November 6-9, 2008**

Congressman William Lacy Clay
U.S House of Representatives
131 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2406
Fax: 202-226-3717

Congresswoman Diane E. Watson
US House of Representatives
125 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7084
Fax: 202-225-2422

Congressman Kendrick Meek
U.S House of Representatives
1039 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-4506
Fax: 202-226-0777

Congressman David Scott
U.S House of Representatives
417 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2929
Fax: 202-225-4268

Congressman James Clyburn
US House of Representatives
2135 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3315
Fax: 202-225-9253

Congressman Robert Scott
U.S House of Representatives
1201 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-8351
Fax: 202-225-8354

09-4403 0270

Congresswoman Nydia Velaquez
U.S House of Representatives
2241 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2361
Fax: 202-226-0327

Congressman Charles Rangel
U.S House of Representatives
2354 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515-3215
Phone: 202-225-4365
Fax: 202-225-0186

Congressman Donald Payne
U.S House of Representatives
2209 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3436
Fax: 202-225-4160

Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
U.S House of Representatives
1510 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-1790
Fax: 202-225-5517

Congressman Edolphus Towns
U.S House of Representatives
2232 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-5936
Fax: 202-225-6018

Congressman G. K. Butterfield
U.S House of Representatives
413 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3101
Fax: 202-225-2256

Congressman Gregory Meeks
U.S House of Representatives
1710 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3461
Fax: 202-225-4169

09-4403 0271

Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.
U.S House of Representatives
2419 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-0773
Fax: 202-225-0899

Congressman Keith Ellison
U.S House of Representatives
1130 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-4755
Fax: 202-225-4886

Congressman Kendrick Meek
U.S House of Representatives
1039 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-4506
Fax: 202-225-0777

Congresswoman Maxine Waters
U.S House of Representatives
2324 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2201
Fax: 202-225-7854

Congressman Melvin Watt
U.S House of Representatives
2236 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-1510
Fax: 202-225-1512

Congresswoman Barbara Lee
U.S House of Representatives
2444 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2661
Fax: 202-225-9817

Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
U.S House of Representatives
1610 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2261
Fax: 202-225-5730

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3

Congresswoman Corrine Brown
U.S House of Representatives
2444 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-0123
Fax: 202-225-2256

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
U.S House of Representatives
1511 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-8885
Fax: 202-2256-1477

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
U.S House of Representatives
410 Canon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3816
Fax: 202-225-3317

Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
U.S House of Representatives
1029 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-6231
Fax: 202-2256-0112

Congressman Danny Davis
U.S House of Representatives
1222 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-5006
Fax: 202-225-5641

Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs-Jones
U.S House of Representatives
1516 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7032
Fax: 202-2256-1539/2367

Congressman Bennie Thompson
US House of Representatives
2432 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-5876
Fax: 202-225-5898

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Working Copy

**13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
St.Maarten, N.A.**

**THEME: A REGION IN TRANSITION -- STRATEGY FOR
CHANGE -- BUILDING ALLIANCES**

Thursday, November 6, 2008

12:00 noon- 6:00pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -

5:00 - 6:30 - TOWN HALL FORUM - HEALTH

Healthy Eating and Living

Innovative Solutions for Life styles

**Diseases- a Collaborative Approach -- Diabetes,
Hypertension, Obesity, Oral Health**

Venue - ROYAL ISLANDER

Moderator - Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

Speakers - Mrs. Karen Boykin-Towns

**Congressmember Dr. Donna Christian Christensen
Commissioner Maria Buncamper Molanus, Health
Commissioner, St. Maarten**

Dr. Leon Merrick

Dr. Jay Cohan

Dr. John Palmer

6:30- 7:30pm. - OPENING RECEPTION

Venue: - UPPER POOL

09-4403 0274

Theme: - *A REGION IN TRANSITION*
Speakers: - *Raye A. Rodney*
Hon. Roy Marlin – Commissioner for Tourism & Finance – St
Maarten.

MC: - *Sabrina Hosang - Royal Caribbean Bakery*
7:30 – 9:30 pm - *OPENING DINNER*

Venue: - *MAHO ROOM*

Theme: - *STRATEGY FOR CHANGE*

MC - *Judge Sylvia Hinds-Radix*

Speakers: - *Susan Taylor*

Hon. Donald Payne, Member US Congress

10:00pm – 1:00am: - *HOSPITALITY AREA*

Friday, November 7, 2008

8:00am – 8:45am - *(BREAKFAST) – OCEAN TERRACE*

9:00am - 6:00pm

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
OCEAN TERRACE LOBBY

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT
SABA ROOM

9:00am - 10:15am

- **OPENING CEREMONIES**

Venue:

- **MAHO ROOM**

Theme:

- **BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR PROGRESS**

Invocation:

- **Rev. Susan Johnson=Cook**

Anthems:

- **St. Maarten**

Lift Every Voice

Remarks:

- **Eric Eve**

Karen Boykin-Towns

Marie Long

Ed Goldberg

Patrick Gaston

Hazel Dukes

Speakers:

- **Hon. Carolyn Checks Kilpatrick -- Member**
US Congress

Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader
of Government, St. Maarten

Harry Belafonte

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONIES

10:15am - 10:30am - COFFEE BREAK -

10:30am - 11:45am - PRESENTATION

EDUCATION -- TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES - COLLABORATION

Moderator - Dr. Emmanuel Gonsalves

Greetings - Marie Long

Speakers - Dr. Edison Jackson

Patrick Gaston

Dr. Marcia Keizs

Congressmember Eddie Bernice Johnson

Professor Rex Nettleford

12.00 noon - 1:15p.m.

PRESENTATION

TRAVEL AND TOURISM -

A Transformative Approach

Moderator - Lloyd Williams

Greetings - Wallace Ford

Speakers - Commissioner Roy Marlin

Howard Dodson

Congressman Gregory Meeks

Professor Rex Nettleford

Dr. Martin Valdes

12:00 noon - 1:15p.m - PRESENTATION
HEALTH - AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE REGION

Greetings - Karen Boykin-Towns

Moderator - Yvonne Graham

Speakers - Dr. Denzil Douglas
 Dr. Carl Kenel Pierre
 Commissioner Maria Buncamper Molanus, Health
 Commissioner, St. Maarten
 Dr. Dexter McKenzie

1:30pm - 2:30pm - LUNCHEON

Venue: - Main Ballroom

Theme: - **BUILDING A WINNING STRATEGY - PARTNERSHIPS THAT WORK**

Moderator: - Hon. Nick Perry, NYS Assembly

Speakers - Eric Eve

Keynote Speaker - Hon. David Paterson, Governor New York State

3:00pm - 4:00pm

Round Table # 1 -

Theme - **EDUCATION - THINKFINITY PRESENTATION & DEMONSTRATION**

Venue - Royal Islander A
MC - Dr. Patricia Hazlewood
Speakers - Patrick Gaston
Albert Browne

Round Table #2 -

Theme - *LOCAL BUSINESS INITIATIVES*
Opportunities with US Companies

Venue - Royal Islander B
Speakers: - Ed Goldberg
Eric Eve
Albert Browne

4:30pm - 6:00pm - *TOWN HALL FORUM - EDUCATION*
Venue - Royal Islander A
Theme : *EDUCATION -- SHARING WORKING SOLUTIONS*
Greetings : Michael Flanigan
Moderator : Dr. Marcella Maxwell

Speakers: - Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor, NYC
Dr. Edison O. Jackson
Dr. Marcia Keizs
Professor Rex Nettleford, UWI
William Payne, Assemblyman New Jersey

Venue:

6:30:00pm - 7:30pm - *HOST COUNTRY EVENING*

Venue:

Theme

MC:

Speakers:

7:30 - 8:00 pm:

8:00pm - 10:30 pm.

CULTURAL PRESENTATION

Venue :

Theme

10:00pm - 1:00am

HOSPITALITY AREA

Venue:

Saturday, November 8, 2008

7:45 am - 8:15 am

= BREAKFAST

Venue

- OCEAN TERRACE

8:30am - 10:00am

- PRESENTATION

Theme

WOMEN OF INFLUENCE AND POWER

Venue:

- MAHO BEACH

Greetings & Opening Remarks - - **Brenda Scott**

Moderator - **Marilyn Johnson**

Speakers: - **Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Government Business**

Dame Billie Miller, former Deputy Prime Minister, of Barbados

Dr. Marcia Keizs, President York College

Michelle Paterson, First Lady New York State

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson

Rev. Dr. Susan Johnson-Cook

10.15am - 11.45am - **PRESENTATION**

Theme - **THE CARIBBEAN, IT'S VALUE & POTENTIAL**

Venue - **Royal Islander A**

Greetings - **Wallace Ford**

Moderator - **Dame Billie Miller**

Speakers - **Hon. P. J. Patterson, former Prime Minister, Jamaica**

Hon. Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister St. Vincent and the Grenadines

- **Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister, St. Kitts-Nevis**

Congressman Charles Rangel

12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m. **PRIVATE MEETING - CLOSED DOOR SESSION**

with Members of Congress and Ministers of Government

12:00 noon - 1:15p.m.

PRESENTATION

Theme

- *TRADE & INVESTMENT - CREATIVE SOLUTIONS*
- *RETOOLING FOR GROWTH - PARTNERSHIP AT WORK*

Venue

- Royal Islander A

Greetings

- Michael Flanigan

Moderator

- Ivanhoe Ffriend

Speakers

- Adolfo Carrion, Borough President, Bronx, New York
- Compton Bourne, President Caribbean Development Bank
- Congressman Edolphus Towns
- Eric Eve

12:00 noon - 1:15pm

- **PRESENTATION**

Theme

- *Hemispheric Security - Ports/Airports -*
- *Crime - Drugs - Disaster*

Venue

- Royal Islander B

Greetings

- Earl Brown, Deputy Borough President, Bronx
- Judge Sylvia Ash

Moderator

- Tony Best

Speakers

- Congressman Bennie Thompson
- Commissioner Theo Heyliger, St. Maarten
- Professor Ivelaw Griffith
- Hon. Lance Ogiste, Brooklyn District Attorney

1:30pm - 2:30 pm

LUNCHEON

Venue

- MAHO ROOM

Theme: *CARIBBEAN -- A SOLID INVESTMENT*

Greetings - Hon. Darryl Towns

Speakers - Hon. William Thompson, NYC Comptroller
Dr. Compton Bourne, President CDB

Round Table #1 - *IMMIGRATION/DEPORTEES*

Venue - Royal Islander A

Moderator - Dr. Marco Mason

Speakers Congressman Bennie Thompson
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson, Member US Congress
Attorney Stanford Rubenstein
NYC Councilmember Dr. Kendall Stewart

Round Table#2: - *HAITI -- BOLD INITIATIVES -- THE DIASPORA--
CBC AND CARICOM*

Venue - Royal Islander B

Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham

Speakers - Hon. Charles Rangel
Hon. Gregory Meeks
Hon. Ralph Gonsalves
Dr. Lesly Kernisant

4:30 pm -- 6:00pm - *TOWN HALL FORUM - TECHNOLOGY*

Venue: Royal Islander A

Greetings & Opening - Marie Long

Moderator - Colin Ward

Speakers - Congressman Edolphus Towns
Albert Brown
Commissioner of Technology

6:30 - 7:30pm - GALA RECEPTION

Speakers - Susan Taylor

7:30pm - 10:00pm - GALA DINNER & AWARDS PRESENTATION

Speaker - Dr. Harry Belafonte

Hon. Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Government
Business

AWARDS PRESENTATION

ENTERTAINMENT

10:30pm - 1:00am - HOSPITALITY AREA

Venue: HOTEL CONFERENCE ROOM

Sunday, November 9, 2008

8:30 am - 10:00am - POWER BREAKFAST

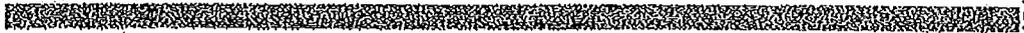
Theme: - *SPIRITUALITY - THE BASICS IN BUSINESS*
Greetings - *Lowell Hawthorne*
Speakers - *Ed Goldberg*
Selections: - *Local Choir*

October 13, 2008

Exhibit 24

Combined Tax 30.80USXT2.50AY7.00XY5.00XA9.35FG30.00FH5.00IWXF4.50EWR4.5
Details: (Agent Use Only)

Additional Thu., Oct. 23, 2008/AMERICAN EXPRESS XXXXXXXXXXXX9426 was charged 15.00 USD
Details: American Express Deskless Service Fee 15.00 USD/15.00 USD per person/NON REF



*AX Desk
by [unclear]*

From: "Continental Airlines, Inc." > Save > Reminder
<continentalairlines@continental.com> Address
To: <CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET>
Subject: eTicket Itinerary and Receipt for Confirmation AK13X5
Date: Thursday, October 23, 2008 3:04:07 PM [View Source]

To ensure delivery of this e-mail please add continentalairlines@continental.com to your address book or approved senders list. See Instructions for adding us to your address book.



Confirmation: Print your boarding pass
AK13X5 at within 24 hours of your flight

Issue Date: October 23, 2008

Traveler	eTicket Number	Frequent Flyer	Seats
PAYNE/DONALDMR	0052173750461		19F/16F

FLIGHT INFORMATION			
Day, Date	Flight Class	Departure City and Time	Arrival City and Time Aircraft Meal
Thu, 06NOV08	CO861 I	NEWARK EWR (EWR) 7:45AM	ST MAARTEN AN (SXM) 12:49PM 737-700 Snack
Tue, 11NOV08	CO860 I	ST MAARTEN AN (SXM) 1:40PM	NEWARK EWR (EWR) 5:20PM 737-700 Snack

FARE INFORMATION

Fare Breakdown		
Airfare:	318.00USD	Form of Payment:
Per Person Total:	412.15USD	AMERICAN EXPRESS
eTicket Total:	412.15USD	Last Four Digits 9426

The airfare you paid on this Itinerary totals: 318.00 USD

The taxes you paid on this Itinerary total: 94.15 USD

09-4403 0287

Fare Rules: Additional charges may apply for changes in addition to any fare rules listed.
;NONREF/OVALUAFTDPT/CHGFEE
Cancel reservations before the scheduled departure time or TICKET HAS NO VALUE

Exhibit 25



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the
General Counsel

Office of the
Secretary
Washington, D.C.
20201

June 2, 2000

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Ethics Counselors
National Institutes of Health

FROM: Karen Santoro
Ethics Counsel

SUBJECT: Outside Activities of NIH Employees with Foundations

Recently, a provision of the Internal Revenue Code has been brought to my attention that has serious ramifications for NIH employees who have previously received approval to engage in outside employment activities with private foundations. The statute imposes a tax on "each act of self-dealing between a disqualified person and a private foundation." 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(1). This statute, which was enacted in 1969, was intended to curb private foundations' attempts to influence Government officials. The Internal Revenue Service has issued a number of revenue rulings with respect to Government employees and prospective activities with private foundations.

Issue: The Internal Revenue Service imposes an individual penalty tax of up to 200% of the amount of compensation from a private foundation to certain Government officials conducting outside activities with these foundations.

Conclusion: Certain Government officials should refrain from accepting compensation (other than travel expenses within the United States) for outside activities with private foundations.

Discussion: Specifically, the statute imposes a tax on each act of self-dealing by a disqualified individual equal to five percent of the amount involved for each year in the taxable period. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(1)[1]. In any case in which an initial tax is imposed on an act of self-dealing which is not corrected within the taxable period, a tax equal to 200 percent of the amount involved will be imposed on the disqualified person. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(b)(1)[2].

The Code defines "self-dealing" as any direct or indirect agreement by a private foundation to make any payment to certain enumerated government officials. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(1)(F)[3]. Government officials who are "disqualified persons" within the scope of this restriction are elective officials, Presidential appointees, Schedule C employees, and individuals compensated at or above GS-15-7 levels, irrespective of their appointment mechanism (Title 42, SBRs, Commissioned Corps), and personal or executive assistants or secretaries to any of the foregoing. 26 U.S.C. § 4946(c). Excluded from the definition of government employees is a "special governmental employee" as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 202(a)[4]; Treas. Reg. 53.4946-1(g)(1).

Also excluded from the definition of self-dealing are agreements to employ an individual for any period after the termination of his government service if that individual is terminating his government service within a 90 day period. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(1)(F). For purposes of the statute, a "private foundation" has the same meaning as in 26 U.S.C. § 509. A website for obtaining the status of a foundation can be found at http://www.irs.ustreas.gov/bus_info/eo/eosearch.html.

09-4403 0289

Government officials who are within the scope of this statute will be required to pay the tax only if the individual participates in the act of self-dealing knowing that it is an act of self-dealing. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (a)(1). The regulations define "knowing" to include those situations when: the individual has actual knowledge of the facts that such a transaction would be self-dealing; he is aware that the act violates Federal tax law governing self-dealing; and he negligently fails to make reasonable attempts to ascertain whether the act is an act of self-dealing or he is in fact aware that it is in an act of self-dealing. Treas. Reg. § 53.4941 (a)(1)-(b)(3). The burden is thus on the individual to determine whether he or she is liable under the statute.

An individual's participation in an act of self-dealing will not be considered "knowing" if the individual, after full disclosure of the factual situation to legal counsel, relies on the advice of counsel expressed in a "reasoned written legal opinion" that an act is not an act of self-dealing within the meaning of the statute, even if the act is subsequently determined to be self-dealing. Treas. Reg. § 53.4941(a)(1)-(b)(6).

Finally, a tax for self-dealing will not be imposed under the following circumstances: certain nontaxable prizes and awards if the recipients are selected from the general public; nontaxable scholarships and fellowship grants; qualifying annuity plans; contributions or gifts not exceeding an aggregate of \$25; payments made under the government employee training program in 5 U.S.C. Ch. 41; and payment of travel expenses within the United States. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (d)(2)(B); Rev. Rul. 131, 1974-2 C.B. 385.

As a result of this statute, NIH employees paid at or above the GS 15-7 level are effectively prohibited from receiving compensation from a private foundation for activities such as teaching, writing, advising, or consulting. The Internal Revenue Service may serve a deficiency notice upon an employee, who would then be forced to pay the tax or contest the assessment.

Effective immediately, all requests for approval of outside activities must be reviewed in accordance with the statutory provision at 26 U.S.C. § 4941. The compensation level of the individual requesting approval must be considered in conjunction with an analysis of the nature of the private entity offering the opportunity for compensation. Previously approved outside activities with foundations for NIH employees who are paid at or above the GS 15-7 level should be reviewed to determine the status of the foundation. Should the status of the foundation be private, any affected employee must be advised to either accept only travel expenses within the United States for his/her service or resign from such service. Employees who have questions whether payment to them by a private foundation constitutes acts of self-dealing should consult private counsel.

For your information, the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) and the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) are For your information, the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) and the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) are not considered private foundations for purposes of this prohibition.

The NIH Office of the Legal Advisor has reviewed and concurs in this opinion.

cc: Robert Lanman, Stephen Benowitz

[1] When a tax is imposed on a self-dealer, a corresponding tax of 2.5 percent is imposed on any foundation manager unless the participation by the foundation manager is not willful and is due to reasonable care. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(2). A maximum tax of \$10,000 may be imposed. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (c) (2) .

[2] The "taxable period" is defined as the period beginning with the date on which the act of self-dealing occurs, and ending on the earliest of: the date that a deficiency notice is mailed by the I.R.S.; the date on which the tax is assessed ; or the date on which the correction of the act of self-dealing is completed. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (e), Treas. Reg. § 53.4941 (e) -1 (a) (1). As with the initial tax, a corresponding additional tax of 50 percent will be imposed on any foundation manager who refuses to agree to the correction. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (b) (2). As with the initial tax, the penalty on a foundation manager is limited to \$10,000. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (c) (2)

[3] The statute also defines "self-dealing" to include: the sale or exchange, or leasing, of property; the lending of money or other extension of credit; the furnishing of goods, services, or facilities; payments to a disqualified person as defined in 26 U.S.C. § 4946 (a) (such as substantial contributors, foundation managers, holders of 20 percent of the voting power or beneficial interests; family members of disqualified individuals, or a corporation, partnership, or trust holding a 35 percent interest); and transfer to or use by a disqualified person of the foundation's income or assets. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (d).

[4] 18 U.S.C. § 202 (a) defines "special Government employee" as temporary employee appointed for a term not to exceed 130 days, a part-time U.S. commissioner or magistrate, a part-time member of Congress. or a Reserve or National Guard officer.

09-4403 0290

[Back to Top](#) | [Home Page](#) | [Contacts](#)

DONALD M. PAYNE
10TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA AND GLOBAL HEALTH
CHAIRMAN

SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND
OVERSIGHT

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
AND LABOR

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WORKFORCE PROTECTIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD,
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

AT-LARGE WHIP



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3010

October 21, 2009

WASHINGTON OFFICE
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(201) 369-0392

Mr. R. Blake Chisam
Chief Counsel/ Staff Director
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
Suite HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chisam,

I have received your letter dated October 5, 2009 regarding the referral you received from the Office of Congressional Ethics (OCE). I appreciate the opportunity to respond to the OCE's report.

In reading their report, I note that no mention was made of the fact that I responded in writing to the allegations the OCE raised. Therefore, I am enclosing a copy of the letter I provided to them in May. I have no objection to all of my response being released to the public.

Please feel free to contact me if you need any additional information.

Respectfully,

Donald M. Payne
Member of Congress

RECEIVED
2009 OCT 21 PM 4:56
COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS

DONALD M. PAYNE
10TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA AND GLOBAL HEALTH
CHAIRMAN

SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND
OVERSIGHT

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
AND LABOR

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD,
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

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OFFICE OF
CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

2009 MAY 22 PM 3: 52

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-3010

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(201) 369-0392

May 22, 2009

Members of the Board
Office of Congressional Ethics
U.S. House of Representatives
1017 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Members of the Board,

I had hoped to have the opportunity to address the Board in person, so that I could meet with you face-to-face to answer any questions you might have regarding the pending case. Unfortunately, I recently learned that the meeting had been scheduled during the Congressional recess when the House of Representatives is not in session and members are out of town. Because of the late notice, I was unable to change long-standing commitments outside of Washington. Therefore, I have no option but to communicate with you in writing.

I would like to address the allegations which have been raised regarding the U.S. Congressional and Business Delegation to the Caribbean Region conference. As a co-founder in 2003 of the bipartisan Congressional Caribbean Caucus, and as a co-chair along with my colleague Dan Burton of Indiana, I am strongly committed to strengthening the bonds between the U.S. and the Caribbean. With the Caribbean region's strategic location adjacent to the United States of America, it has become known as our "third border" in recognition of our important partnership on trade, health, education and homeland security issues.

For a number of years, the Carib News Foundation has worked closely with the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct (Ethics Committee) to comply with House rules governing members' travel in preparation for the organization's annual conference. As required by law, I submitted the proper forms required of members of Congress both in advance and after returning from the conference. I received an official letter from the Committee approving my attendance at the conference.

Let me stress that I had no doubt that the exclusive sponsor of the trip was the Carib News Foundation, as it has been in the past. During an event at the conference, I was asked to thank those who provide support to the foundation. As you know, this is customary at events given by foundations and non-profits, many of whom list their corporate sponsors on their web sites. Organizations from Presidential Libraries to the American Red Cross to the Aspen Institute give public recognition to their sponsors. It was my intent merely to thank businesses for their support of the foundation, not for any connection that they may have had with this specific conference.

To imply that I have somehow been improperly influenced by businesses who contribute to the foundation is completely false. I hope that members of the Board will reject this allegation as unfounded and frivolous. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to respond.

Respectfully,



Donald M. Payne
Member of Congress

111th CONGRESS, 1st SESSION
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

**Investigation into Officially Connected Travel of House Members to Attend the Carib
News Foundation Multinational Business Conferences in 2007 and 2008.**

Appendix D

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT

Review No. 09-6333

The Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics, by a vote of no less than four members, on May 29, 2009 adopted the following report and ordered it to be transmitted to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct of the U.S. House of Representatives.

SUBJECT: Representative Charles Rangel

NATURE OF THE ALLEGED VIOLATION: There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Charles Rangel's participation in the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten, N.A. from November 7-9, 2008, his acceptance of reimbursement of expenses to attend that conference and the Member Post Travel Disclosure Form he filed violated various provisions of House Rule XXV Section 5(b).

RECOMMENDATION: The Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics recommends that the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct further review the above described allegations concerning Congressman Rangel.

VOTES IN THE AFFIRMATIVE: 6

VOTES IN THE NEGATIVE: 0

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OR STAFF DESIGNATED TO PRESENT THIS REPORT TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE: Leo Wise, Staff Director & Chief Counsel.

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FINDINGS OF FACT AND CITATIONS TO LAW

Review No. 09-6333

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OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CITATIONS TO LAW

Review No. 09-6333

On May 29, 2009 the Board adopted the following findings of fact and accompanying citations to law, regulations, rules and standards of conduct (*in italics*). The Board notes that these findings do not constitute a determination that a violation actually occurred.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Congressman Charles Rangel attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten, N.A., from November 6-9, 2008. Congressman Rangel received funds from a private source to participate in the conference.

A. Summary of Allegations

2. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Rangel violated the requirement that he identify the "true, correct and accurate" sponsor of his travel "to the best of his knowledge" on his Member Post Travel Disclosure Form. While forms submitted to his office and the Standards Committee before the conference identified one entity as the sponsor—the Carib News Foundation—once at the conference, Congressman Rangel was presented with indications that other corporations—including Citigroup, IBM, AT&T, Pfizer, Macy's and Verizon Foundation—were also sponsors. Those indications proved to be true—the corporations were in fact sponsors of Congressman Rangel's travel according to House travel rules because the corporations had donated funds specifically for the conference (i.e. earmarked funds). Further, events that occurred in 2007 affected the Standards Committee's ability to determine whether these corporations were sponsors in 2008:
 - a. In 2007, the House of Representatives changed the rules governing travel. Those changes placed limitations on the number of days Members of Congress could participate in events (such as conferences) when their travel was sponsored by an entity that employs or retains a lobbyist. These changes affected the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference. In 2007, the Carib News Foundation continued to identify various corporations as sponsors on the

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conference agenda and on a draft version of the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form prepared for submission to the Standards Committee for approval. However, after interacting with the counsel to the then-Chair of the Standards Committee, and apparently without the knowledge of the staff attorney reviewing the trip, the documents identifying these corporations as "sponsors" were changed and their sponsorship was not disclosed.

- b. The 2007 conduct and attendant misrepresentations appear to have directly influenced what occurred in 2008. When the Carib News Foundation submitted materials to the Standards Committee for their approval of the 2008 conference, the Carib News Foundation took the same approach as they were instructed to take in 2007 and did not disclose the role of the corporate sponsors on the forms they submitted to the Standards Committee.
3. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Rangel violated House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C) by accepting trip-related reimbursements from entities that employ or retain lobbyists for participating in an event for more than one day.
4. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Rangel violated House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B) by underreporting the value of the travel reimbursements he received to attend the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference.
5. There is substantial reason to believe that the Carib News Foundation's payment of travel expenses for Representative Rangel and his acceptance of payment violated the Internal Revenue Code. As stated above, Carib News Charities, the name previously held by the 501(c) organization now known as the Carib News Foundation, is listed as a private foundation in the Internal Revenue's cumulative list of charitable organizations, Publication 78. Therefore, the Standards Committee should not have approved the trip because the funds came from a prohibited source.

B. A Note on Culpability

6. These findings fall into three categories: (1) the sponsor or sponsors, as the case appears to be, of the conference; (2) the intervention of the counsel to the former Chair of the Standards Committee in the Standards Committee's review process of the conference in 2007 and how it affected the information before the Standards Committee in 2008; (3) the accuracy of the value of the reimbursement submitted by Congressman Rangel and (4) whether, because of its tax status, the Carib News Foundation could lawfully pay for Congressman Rangel's conference-related expenses.

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7. While all these topics are relevant, the Board notes that they do not all involve conduct by Congressman Rangel to the same degree.
 - a. As to topic 1, determining the identity of the true sponsor or sponsors implicates the conduct of both Congressman Rangel and the Standards Committee. Congressman Rangel told the OCE he saw no evidence of corporate sponsorship at the conference. However, the evidence strongly suggests the Member's statement is not credible. Once Congressman Rangel arrived at the conference, he was almost certainly confronted with information that other corporations were co-sponsors. As such, he had a responsibility to inform the Standards Committee as that information, at least in 2008, does not appear to have been before the Standards Committee when they initially approved the 2008 travel.
 - b. As to topic 2, the intervention of the counsel to the former Chair of the Standards Committee in the Standards Committee's review of the 2007 conference did not involve Congressman Rangel. Nonetheless, it directly bears on whether and to what extent the Standards Committee could determine the true sponsor of the conference in 2008.
 - c. As to topic 3, the accuracy of the information Congressman Rangel provided as to the value of the reimbursement of his conference-related expenses most directly implicates his conduct. The post-travel disclosure form that all Members must file when they accept privately sponsored travel is signed and certified by Members. The form puts the obligation on Members, not staff, not the Standards Committee and not sponsors, to certify that the information on the form is "true, accurate and complete" to the "best of the Member's knowledge." Congressman Rangel stated that while he certified the information on the post-travel disclosure form, he was unaware of the accuracy of the information he certified.
 - d. As to topic 4, limitations on Carib News Foundation's ability to pay for overseas travel of government officials, Congressman Rangel told the OCE he was unaware of any such limitations. The Board finds this statement to be credible. Nonetheless, the law prohibits such payments. Therefore, the Board feels compelled to include a discussion of this issue in this referral.

C. Jurisdictional Statement

8. The allegations that are the subject of this review concern Representative Charles Rangel, a Member of the United States House of Representatives from the 15th District of New York. The Resolution the United States House of Representatives adopted creating the

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Office of Congressional Ethics directs that, "[n]o review shall be undertaken...by the board of any alleged violation that occurred before the date of adoption of this resolution."¹ The House adopted this Resolution on March 11, 2008. Because the conduct under review occurred or relates to actions taken after March 11, 2008, review by the Office of Congressional Ethics is in accordance with the Resolution.

D. Procedural History

9. A preliminary review in this matter commenced on March 6, 2009 following a written request by at least two members of the OCE Board which was made on February 23, 2009.
10. At least three members of the Board voted to initiate a second-phase review in this matter on March 27, 2009. The Board voted to extend the second-phase review by 14 days, as provided for under the Resolution, on April 24, 2009.
11. The second-phase review ended on May 26, 2009.
12. The Board voted to refer the matter to the Standards Committee for further review on May 29, 2009.
13. The OCE requested documents from and interviews with representatives of:
 - (1) Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee's Congressional office;
 - (2) the Verizon Foundation;
 - (3) Citibank;
 - (4) American Airlines;
 - (5) IBM;
 - (6) Macy's, Inc;
 - (7) Pfizer;
 - (8) AT&T;
 - (9) Representative Kilpatrick's Congressional office;

¹ House Resolution 895 of the 110th Congress, Section 1(e).

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

- (10) Representative Payne's Congressional office;
- (11) Representative Rangel's Congressional office;
- (12) Representative Thompson's Congressional office;
- (13) Delegate Christensen's Congressional office;
- (14) The Carib News; and
- (15) The Carib News Foundation

II. Multiple Entities, Including CARIB NEWS (the Newspaper), the Government of St. Maarten and Several Corporations, Sponsored Representative Rangel's Trip

14. *Under House Rule 25 clause 5(d), Members are required to obtain prior approval of the Standards Committee for trips where the Member's travel expenses will be reimbursed by a private source. The Standards Committee has adopted regulations, pursuant to House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B)² that requires Members to identify the "sponsor(s)," i.e. the party reimbursing travel expenses, for any trip where the payor is a private entity.*

15. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Rangel violated the requirement that he identify the "true, correct and accurate" sponsor of his travel "to the best of his knowledge" on his Member Post Travel Disclosure Form. While forms submitted to his and the Standards Committee before the conference identified one sponsor—the Carib News Foundation—once at the conference, Congressman Rangel was presented with evidence that other corporations were also sponsors. As will be discussed below, those indications proved to be true—these corporations were in fact sponsors of Congressman Rangel's travel according to House travel rules because these corporations had donated funds specifically for the conference (i.e. earmarked funds).

A. Representative Rangel's Knowledge of The Involvement of These Corporations in the Conference

16. On his Member Post-Travel Disclosure Form, Congressman Rangel listed Carib News Foundation as the only sponsor of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business

² House Rule 25(5)(h)(i)(1)(B) directs the Standards Committee to establish, "regulations describing the information it will require individuals subject to this clause to submit to the committee in order to obtain the prior approval of the committee for any travel covered by this clause . . ." On February 20, 2007, the Committee issued guidelines and regulations concerning the travel restrictions and requirements.

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Conference in St. Maarten, N.A. (hereafter "the trip" or "conference"³) in November 2008.⁴

Original Amendment

RELATIVE RESOURCE CENTER U.S. House of Representatives
2008 NOV 24 PM 3:05 110th Congress
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MEMBER / OFFICER
POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties. You need not disclose government-funded or political travel on this form, or travel that is unrelated to official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report all privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual Financial Disclosure Statement. In accordance with clause 5 of House Rule 25, complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, B-106 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed. The Clerk is to make these forms available to the public as soon as possible after they are received.

1. Name of Traveler: Representative Charles B. Rangel

2. a. Name of Accompanying Family Member (if any): N/A
b. Relationship to Member/Officer: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____

3. a. Date of Departure and Date of Return: 11/7/08 - 11/9/08
b. Dates at personal expense (if any): N/A

4. Itinerary (cities of departure - destination - return): NY (JFK) - St. Maarten - NY (JFK)

5. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): Carib News Foundation

³ The "Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form" asks the filer at question 5, "Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip)." This in turn raises two questions: (1) what is a trip and; (2) is a conference a "trip" or is a trip limited to the travel expenses associated with attending the trip, e.g., transportation, lodging and meal expenses? The House Ethics manual and the relevant forms use the terms "travel" and "trip" interchangeably. For example, the relevant form is called a Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form" (emphasis added). The introductory paragraph on the form provides, "[t]his form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties" (emphasis added). However, question 9 on the form asks the filer to detail, "TRIP EXPENSES" and uses as an example, "registration fees." Registration fees are not "travel" expenses unless one defines travel (or a trip) to include participating in a conference. The Board uses the term "trip" to include participating in the conference. The Board also notes that the Standards Committee treated the conference as the "trip" in its letter of October 23, 2008 pre-approving Congressman Rangel's trip.

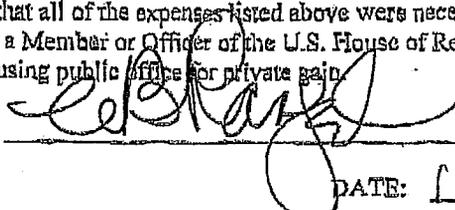
⁴ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Representative Charles B. Rangel (Nov. 24, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-6333 0002-0003).

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17. Congressman Rangel certified that this information was "true, correct and complete" to the "best of [his] knowledge."⁵

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

✓ SIGNATURE OF MEMBER: 

DATE: 11-21-08

18. In an interview with the OCE, Congressman Rangel confirmed he signed this document.⁶
19. Prior to the conference, Karl Rodney, the CEO of the Carib News Foundation, submitted a Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form to Congressman Rangel, which he in turn submitted to the Standards Committee that identified the Carib News Foundation as the sponsor of the trip.⁷

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

⁵ *Id.* at 09-6333 0003.

⁶ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Charles Rangel (May 28, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-6333 0020).

⁷ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form signed by Karl A. Rodney (Oct. 3, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-6333 0004).

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

20. Later on that same, form Mr. Rodney represented that "the trip sponsor(s) [had] not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip."⁸

15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):

21. Rodney also certified that the information was "true, complete, and correct."⁹

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:

Name and title:

KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

22. Also prior to the conference, the Standards Committee approved the reimbursement of Congressman Payne's expenses by the Carib News Foundation.¹⁰

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Washington, DC 20515

October 23, 2008

The Honorable Charles B. Rangel
U.S. House of Representatives
2354 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct hereby approves your proposed trip to St. Maarten, N.A. scheduled for November 6 to 9, 2008 sponsored by the Carib News Foundation.

⁸ *Id.* at 09-6333 0005.

⁹ *Id.* at 09-6333 0006.

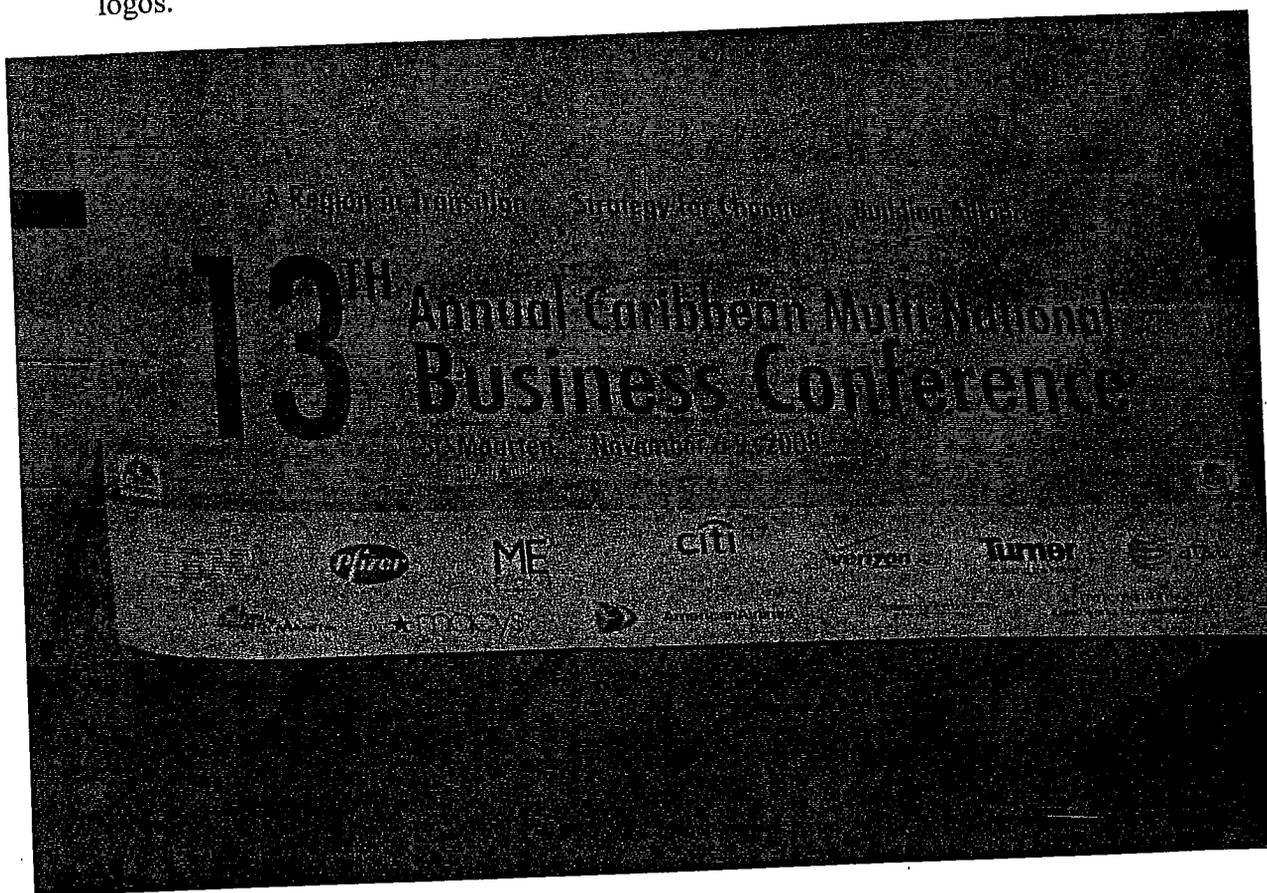
¹⁰ Letter from the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct to Representative Charles B. Rangel (Oct. 23, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-6333 0016-0017).

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23. At the conference, several corporations, including Citibank, IBM, AT&T, and others, were identified as "sponsors."¹¹

24. The signs for the conference displayed these corporations' logos, including signs hung behind the speaker's podium.¹² Congressman Rangel arrived at the conference on Friday and left on Sunday. According to his interview with OCE, Congressman Rangel did not attend any of the sessions he did not participate in – with one exception. However, he did attend all the conference meals.¹³ In total, Congressman Rangel would have attended approximately 6 or 7 sessions and/or meals. According to Delegate Christensen, the signs containing the corporate logos were in every room used by the conference.¹⁴ It is therefore likely Congressman Rangel was exposed to the signs bearing the corporate logos.



¹¹ Photographs taken at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (Exhibit 5 at 09-6333 0058-0068) (The Board notes that the source of this information may have a bias, interest, or motive in this matter.).

¹² *Id.*

¹³ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Charles Rangel (May 28, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-6333 0021).

¹⁴ Memorandum of Interview of Delegate Donna Christensen (May 4, 2009) (Exhibit 26 at 09-6333 0287).

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25. Despite the likelihood that Representative Rangel was exposed to signs bearing corporate logos, in an interview with the OCE, Congressman Rangel stated that he did not see any such signs. He stated that he did not remember any corporations identified as sponsors. While admitting that his lack of memory on this matter was a problem, he nevertheless was unequivocal that he did not see indications that business had sponsored the conference.¹⁵ His statements on this point are not credible and conflict with the statements of other Members of Congress who attended, and the pictorial evidence collected by OCE.

26. Despite his statement that he has no memory of them, these corporate entities, as described below, were in fact sponsors of the conference.

B. CARIB NEWS also Sponsored Congressman Rangel's Travel

27. Karl Rodney is the publisher of the CARIB NEWS, a weekly newspaper published in New York. He also identified himself as the CEO of the Carib News Foundation on the Private Sponsor Travel Certification described above.¹⁶

28. According to Mr. Rodney, "general funds" of CARIB NEWS were "pooled" with payments from corporate sponsors, made both to CARIB NEWS and the Carib News Foundation and fees from attendees at the conference to pay conference expenses including "travel" and "hotel payments."¹⁷

29. Therefore, CARIB NEWS was also effectively a sponsor of Congressman Rangel's trip.

C. Corporate Donations Were Earmarked for the Conference

30. *According to the House Ethics Manual:*

The rule and implementing regulations are concerned with the organization(s) or individual(s) that actually pay for travel. Thus, for example, when a nonprofit organization pays for travel with donations that were earmarked, either formally or informally, for the trip, each such donor is deemed a —private source for the trip and (1) must be publicly disclosed as a trip sponsor on the applicable travel

¹⁵ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Charles Rangel (May 28, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-6333 0021).

¹⁶ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form signed by Karl A. Rodney (Oct. 3, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-6333 0006).

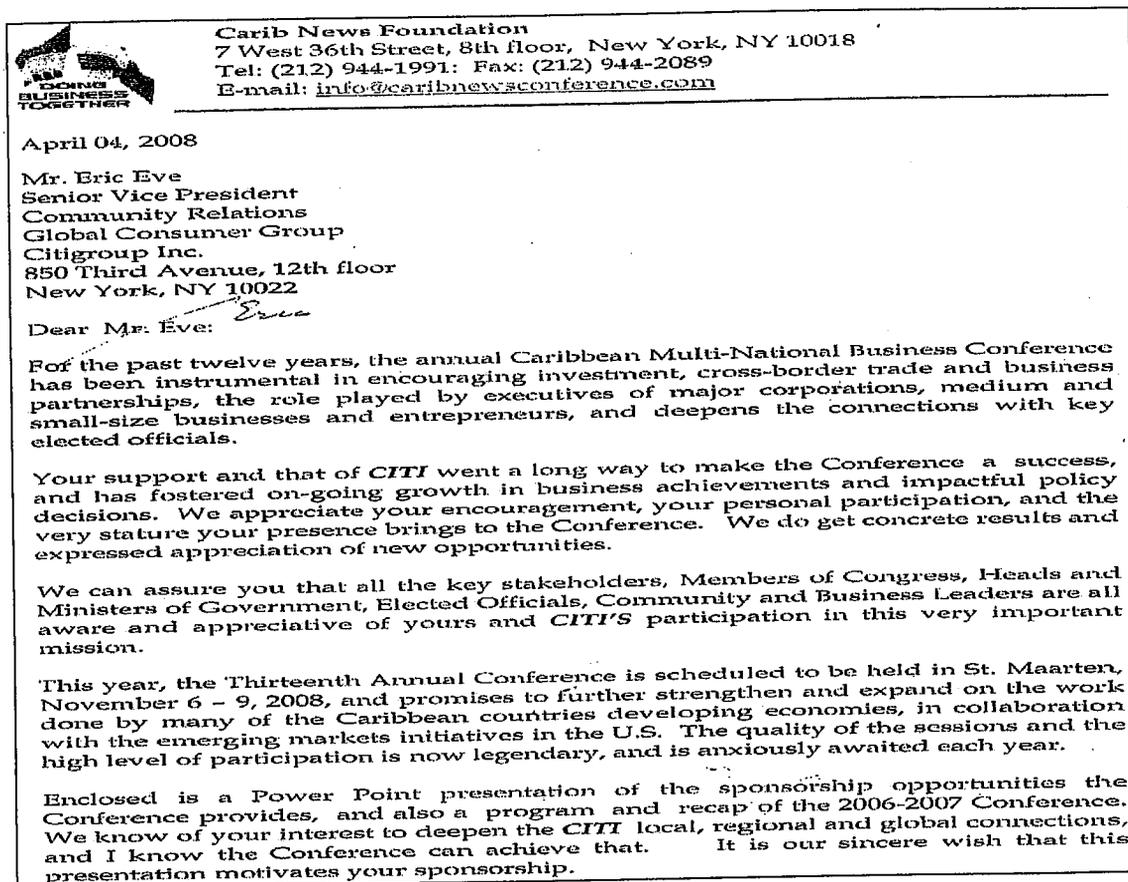
¹⁷ Letter from Joel Cohen, Counsel for Karl Rodney (May 18, 2009) (Exhibit 6 at 09-6333 0069).

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

forms and (2) must itself be required to satisfy the above standards on proper sources of travel expenses.

31. In the course of conducting its review, the OCE has learned that the Carib News Foundation solicited earmarked funds for the conference. For example, Carib News Foundation sent a solicitation letter to Citigroup, Inc.¹⁸



32. Attached to this solicitation letter was a PowerPoint presentation.¹⁹ The presentation solicits money only for the conference and not for any other purpose, outlining the benefits of each level of sponsorship – Platinum, Gold, and Silver, along with lesser levels of sponsorship – in terms of the conference.²⁰ In each instance, the sponsorship covers travel related expenses such as gala events and meals.

¹⁸ Letter from Carib News Foundation to Mr. Eric Eve, Citigroup, Inc. (Apr. 4, 2008) (Exhibit 7 at 09-6333 0073) (a nearly identical letter was sent to IBM, AT&T, Pfizer, Verizon Foundation and others).

¹⁹ *Id.* at 09-6333 0075-0090.

²⁰ *Id.* at 09-6333 0083-0086.

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

PARTICIPATION

PLATINUM LEVEL - \$75,000

- ◆ Keynote Speaker at Main Event
- ◆ Sponsor Private VIP Reception and specially arranged forum
- ◆ Special Awards Presentation
- ◆ Display, Exhibition and signage
- ◆ Area of Conference -Reserved for exclusive sponsorship
- ◆ Full page Ad in program
- ◆ Air Transportation for 2 people
- ◆ Accommodations: One Suite and One Standard Room
- ◆ Included in all printed materials
- ◆ Included in Internet promotion
- ◆ Display company logo and link to our website
- ◆ Sponsor of a Gala Event
- ◆ Sponsor and Participate in a workshop
- ◆ Representative listed in program with bio and photo

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

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PARTICIPATION

GOLD LEVEL - \$50,000

- ◆ Sponsor a Workshop
- ◆ Sponsor a Gala Event
- ◆ Display, Exhibition and signage
- ◆ Included in all Printed Material
- ◆ Included in all Internet Promotion
- ◆ Display of Company Logo and Link to Our Website
- ◆ Full Page Ad in Program
- ◆ Representation in the Brochure
- ◆ Air Transportation & room accommodations for 1

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PARTICIPATION

SILVER LEVEL - \$25,000

- ◆ Sponsor & Participate in a Workshop
- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in all printed materials
- ◆ Included in Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Sponsor an event i.e. breakfast, lunch or dinner
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in program with bio & photos
- ◆ Representatives listed in brochure

33. The OCE also learned that at least four of the corporations identified at the conference did in fact, make payments to the Carib News Foundation and CARIB NEWS (the newspaper) earmarked for the conference. The Carib News Foundation itself appears to

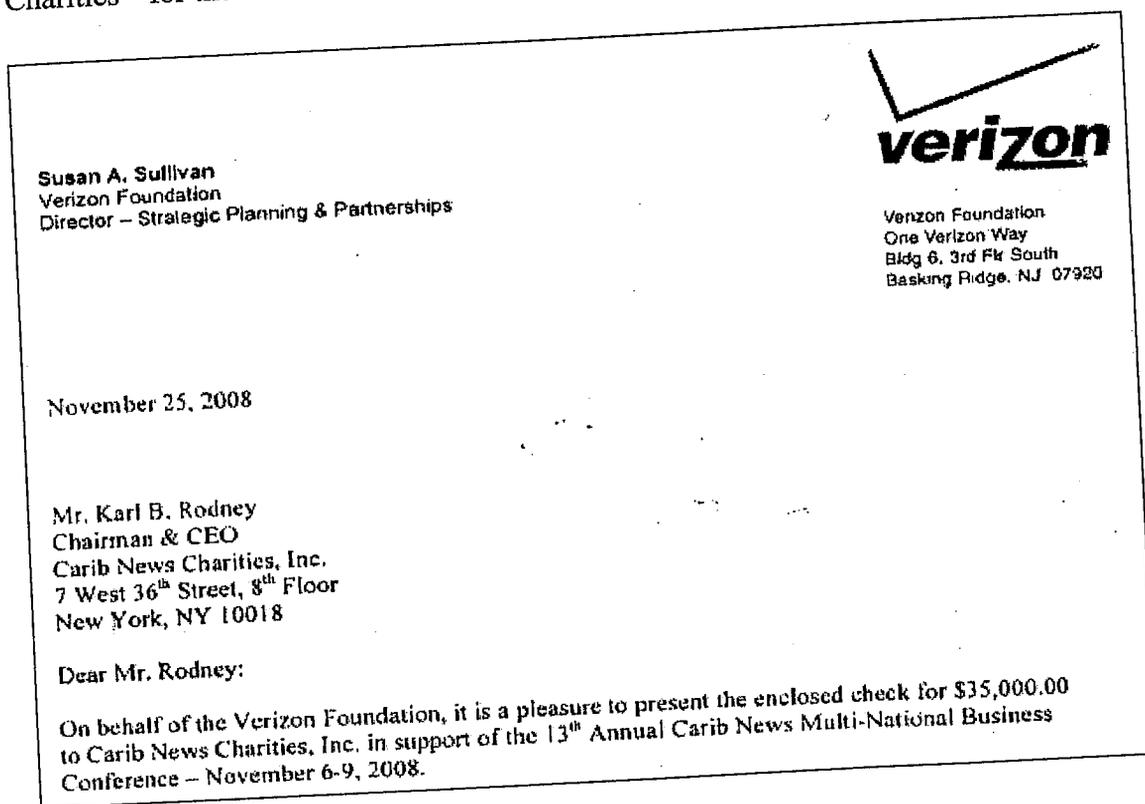
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be nothing more than a conduit in this case, and a partial one at that, for payments from corporations to support the conference. There is no evidence that the organization has filed a tax return with the IRS, under either Carib News Foundation or Carib News Charities, since 2005.²¹ On its 2005 form 990-PF, the Carib News Foundation is shown as having no assets, no income and no expenses.²² Not a single witness from a sponsor interviewed by the OCE knew of any other work of the Foundation. Indeed one witness, from IBM, was not aware that the Foundation played a role in the conference.²³

34. **Citigroup.** Citigroup made a \$75,000 payment to the CARIB NEWS for the conference.²⁴

35. **Verizon Foundation.** Verizon Foundation made a \$35,000 payment to the Carib News Charities²⁵ for the conference.²⁶



²¹ Letter from IRS to OCE (April 17, 2009) (Exhibit 8 at 09-6333 0095).

²² *Id.* at 09-6333 0096-0107.

²³ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of IBM (May 8, 2009) (Exhibit 9 at 09-6333 0111).

²⁴ Documents submitted to the OCE by Citigroup (Exhibit 7 at 09-6333 0072).

²⁵ Mr. Rodney accepted corporate payments under the names of three entities: The Carib News, the Carib News Foundation, and the Carib News Charities. According to the Secretary of State for the State of New York, the organization that currently operates as the Carib News Foundation originally operated under the name the Carib News Charities.

²⁶ Documents Submitted to the OCE by Verizon Foundation (Exhibit 10 at 09-6333 0117).

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36. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation said the Verizon Foundation funded the Carib News Foundation for the first time in 2008 and that the grant was issued to provide funding for the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference.²⁷
37. **IBM.** IBM made a \$20,000 payment to Carib News Foundation for the conference as indicated on the invoice that CARIB NEWS, INC. (not Carib News Foundation) sent IBM.²⁸

Invoice	
CARIB NEWS INC. 7 WEST 36TH STREET 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, 10018 212-944-1991	
Date	Invoice #
7/16/2008	45122
Bill To Wanda McKenzie IBM 2607 Jeeters Court Marietta, GA 30068	
Description	Amount
Sponsorship Multi-National Business Conference 2008 TAX ID 13-362060	20,000.00

38. **Macy's.** Macy's made a \$35,000 payment to CARIB NEWS for the conference.²⁹
39. **Pfizer.** Pfizer made a \$25,000 payment to CARIB NEWS for the conference.³⁰
40. Only American Airlines explicitly limited their sponsorship of the conference to individuals who were not elected officials, prohibiting CARIB NEWS from using any part of their sponsorship on Members of Congress and other government officials and

²⁷ Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Verizon Foundation (Mar. 23, 2009) (Exhibit 11 at 09-6333 0122).

²⁸ Documents submitted by IBM to the OCE (Exhibit 13 at 09-6333 0140).

²⁹ Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Macy's (Exhibit 20 at 09-6333 0232).

³⁰ Interview with Investigative Counsel on May 22, 2009.

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their staff.³¹ No other sponsor with whom we spoke placed restrictions on how or on whom their contribution could be spent. The only expectation was that the contribution would be used for expenses associated with the conference.

D. Because Entities that Employ or Retain Lobbyists Sponsored the Event, Congressman Rangel's Involvement Should Have Been Limited to One Day

41. According to the House Ethics Manual:

***One-Day Event Trip.** The sole exception to the general prohibition on accepting officially-connected travel from a private source that retains or employs lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal is for trips involving attendance at or participation in one-day event (exclusive of travel time and an overnight stay).*

*Under the rule, it is permissible for a Member or staff person to accept and meals related to a **single night's lodging** and meals related to the trip, if offered by the trip sponsor. Members and staff must limit their involvement in connection with the event to a **single calendar day**, exclusive of travel time and an overnight stay. A Member or staff person may therefore attend only a single day of a multiple-day conference, forum, or other event that is being hosted primarily for individuals other than congressional invitees.*

*Under the Committee's travel regulations and guidelines implementing the travel provisions of the gift rule, the Committee may permit a **second night's stay** when determined —on a case-by-case basis to be practically required to participate in the one-day event (House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)). Some circumstances in which the Committee may permit a second night's stay are for certain long-distance trips, when a Member or staff person is participating in a full day's worth of officially-connected activities such that a second night's stay is necessary to accomplish the purpose of the trip, or other exceptional circumstances that are described in detail by the traveler. The traveler will be personally responsible for any expenses incurred beyond those allowed by the Committee in connection with the second night's stay.³²*

³¹ Documents submitted by American Airlines to the OCE (Exhibit 14 at 09-6333 0142) and OCE Investigative Counsel interview with American Airlines Representative (Mar. 5, 2009). (American Airlines provided an in-kind contribution in the form of ten roundtrip tickets to be used by Carib News in any manner they chose with the exception that no ticket could be used for an elected official or the official's staff or family. The estimated value of their contribution was between \$6,200 and \$7,500).

³² House Ethics Manual at 92-93 (citing House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)) (emphasis in original)).

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42. Citigroup, IBM and Verizon employ or retain lobbyists.³³
43. Congressman Rangel spent four days at the conference at the expense of the third-party.³⁴
44. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Rangel violated *House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)* by accepting trip-related reimbursements from entities that employ or retain lobbyists for participating in an event for more than one day.

E. The Government of St. Maarten Made In-Kind Donations to the 2008 Conference and Played a Significant Role in Planning, Organizing and Conducting the 2008 Conference

45. The Government of St. Maarten was the host of the 2008 conference.
46. In that capacity, the Government of St. Maarten provided in-kind donations to support the conference and also had a substantial role in planning the conference. As a result, it was effectively a sponsor of the 2008 conference.³⁵
47. Rodney provided the Leader of Government of St. Maarten, Commissioner Sarah Wescott-Williams, with a list of "Basic Requirements to Host Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference."³⁶ These included:

³³ Clerk of the House of Representatives Lobbying Disclosure Report 2008 (excerpt) (Exhibit 15 09-6333 0148-0153).

³⁴ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Representative Charles B. Rangel (Nov. 24, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-6333 0002-0003).

³⁵ In 2007, the "host" of the conference was the Government of Antigua and Barbuda. In the event that the Government of Antigua and Barbuda provided the same support as St. Maarten did in 2008, then the members may have accepted gifts from a foreign government which would have been reportable under the Foreign Gift and Decorations Act. In addition, if the Government of Antigua provided these gifts to the Members, and if they were more than \$335 in value, then the Members should have disclosed them on their financial disclosure form for 2007, which was filed in May 2008.

³⁶ Letter from Karl Rodney to Commissioner Sarah Wescott-Williams (Aug. 13, 2008) (Exhibit 16 at 09-6333 0155).

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- To provide the care and comfort for the VIP's attending i.e.
 - To provide 25 all-inclusive rooms for the VIP's and members of Congress attending;
 - To provide appropriate mode of transportation for VIP's and members of Congress - cars or specialized vans - not buses;
- To be a designated sponsor in one of the categories - Title, Main or Regular Sponsor (See Attachment)
- To organize a "Host Country Evening" - The Friday evening, the host country will host at an appropriate location an evening of food, refreshment, cultural presentation and entertainment.
- Provide for local entertainment for the various functions --
 - The Opening Ceremonies
 - The Reception
 - The Gala Dinner
- To assist in Promotion and Publicity of the conference both locally and through international offices and official publications.
- Assist in securing competitive hotel rates.
- Equip and staff conference secretariat.
- Prime Minister to issue invitations along with CARIB NEWS to members of the US Congress, other Prime Ministers and Ministers of Government.
- Participate in the Forum with Members of Congress.
- Arrange tours and activities of interest for VIP's and/or their spouse.

48. According to a statement from Mr. Rodney submitted to the OCE, the Government of St. Maarten, (1) developed local Host Committees to facilitate local planning; (2) helped negotiate the rate with the hotel, (3) assisted in developing the theme of the Conference, (4) assisted in identifying local speakers, including the Leader of Government, (5) assisted in local publicity, (6) provided local entertainment, including a school choir and cultural items, (7) arranged Host Country Evening on Friday, November 8 (the whole group was transported to another property for refreshments and entertainment), (8) helped with local transportation for some CARIB NEWS employees and helped arrange accommodations for some guests (not paying for such accommodations), (9) participated as event speakers, and (10) issued invitations to attend to specially invited guests.³⁷

³⁷ Letter from Joel Cohen, Counsel for Karl Rodney (May 18, 2009) (Exhibit 6 at 09-6333 0068-0069).

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These contributions to the conference were all in-kind, according to Mr. Rodney, and he did not provide an estimated value for them.³⁸

49. In addition, because these donations to the conference are from a foreign government, Members are required to take certain actions under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act.³⁹

50. Representative Rangel told the OCE that he was unaware of what role the Government of St. Maarten played in the conference. He only knew that they provided protection for him – to include the use of a car and a police escort while he attended the conference.⁴⁰

III. Role of the Chair's Counsel in the Approval of the 12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in 2007

51. Congressman Rangel told the OCE that he relied on the Standards Committee to determine if he could attend the conference.⁴¹ He also stated that he believed the Carib News Foundation was the conference and that the foundation put the program together and invited him to attend.⁴² In the course of the Board's review, the OCE requested documents from Mr. Karl Rodney, the CEO of the Carib News Foundation. Mr Rodney voluntarily submitted documents to the OCE that included, among other things, communication with certain members of the staff of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct in 2007. The contents of these documents from 2007 are relevant because they indicate the role of the corporations was concealed from the Committee in 2008.

52. The Board requested that the Committee provide the information submitted to it for 2008 and the Committee declined to do so.

53. The documents submitted by Mr. Rodney show that in 2007 the CARIB NEWS initially identified, on several occasions, other corporations as sponsors of the Conference. The designation of these corporate entities as sponsors presented a problem for CARIB NEWS and the Members who wished to attend the conference insofar as their attendance would be limited to one day. In 2007, as a result of changes in the travel rules, a Member could not, in most instances, participate in an event (such as a conference) for more than

³⁸ *Id.*

³⁹ 5 U.S.C. § 7342.

⁴⁰ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Charles Rangel (May 28, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-6333 0021).

⁴¹ *Id.* at 09-6333 0022.

⁴² *Id.* at 09-6333 0021.

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one day if their travel to and participation in the event was paid for by an entity that employed or retained a lobbyist.⁴³ Many of the corporate entities who sponsored the 2007, as well as the 2008 conference, employed or retained lobbyists. Although CARIB NEWS initially identified these entities as sponsors, following interactions with the counsel to the then-chair of the Committee, apparently without the knowledge of the Standards Committee staff attorney assigned to review the trip, the documents identifying these organizations as sponsors were changed.

54. Subsequently, in 2008, the Carib News Foundation submitted documents that omitted the role of these other corporations as sponsors of the conference. Further, the staff attorney assigned to review the trip in 2008 was not the same staff attorney that reviewed the trip in 2007.

55. The earliest communication between CARIB NEWS or the Carib News Foundation and anyone associated with the Ethics Committee in the documents submitted to the OCE from Mr. Rodney is an e-mail dated September 17, 2007 from Patricia Louis, an Executive Assistant at CARIB NEWS, to Dawn Kelly Mobley, Counsel to the then-Chair of the Ethics Committee.⁴⁴

56. The next day, on September 18, 2007, Ms. Mobley responded and asked for "any information on your sponsor's status."⁴⁵

57. That same day Ms. Louis responded, identifying multiple corporations as "sponsors" of the trip.⁴⁶

⁴³ House Ethics Manual (2008) at 92-93 (citing House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)).

⁴⁴ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Sept. 17, 2007, 3:47 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0204) (The Board elected not to interview Ms. Mobley and Ms. Olson because the Standards Committee voted against disclosing information to the OCE. The Board determined that it would have been an act of bad faith on the part of the OCE to attempt to interview staff and former staff of the Standards Committee in light of the Committee's refusal to grant OCE access to their records.).

⁴⁵ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 18, 2007, 12:57 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0204).

⁴⁶ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Sept. 18, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0204) (The Board notes that while the document that contains the e-mail does not have a header which indicates a date and time, both the e-mail before it and responding to it are dated September 18, 2007).

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We had received the forms from Shelley.
The sponsors to date are : MACYS, PFIZER, AMERICAN AIRLINES, GOLDEN KRUST
BAKERY, CARIBBEAN FOOD DELIGHTS, PREFERRED HEALTH PARTNERS, IBM,
AT&T/INGULAR

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

58. In response that same day, Ms. Mobley asked, “[d]o any of these organizations have or retain a lobbyist?”⁴⁷

59. The next day, Ms. Mobley further responded asking Ms. Louis whether she, Ms. Mobley, should “assume” the sponsor was CARIB NEWS, despite the fact that Ms. Louis had not identified CARIB NEWS as a sponsor.⁴⁸ The Board notes that in her e-mail, Ms. Louis did not identify CARIB NEWS as a sponsor. Further, Ms. Mobley acknowledged that she had been told corporations identified by Ms. Louis were “sponsoring food and other parts of the Antigua travel.” Under House rules in place at the time, and under current rules, sponsoring a meal makes these corporations sponsors of a Member’s travel.⁴⁹ The Board also notes Ms. Mobley’s use of the phrase “safe review,” which the Board takes to mean a review which results in approval of the trip.

⁴⁷ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 18, 2007, 7:03 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0203).

⁴⁸ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 19, 2007, 2:16 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0203).

⁴⁹ House Ethics Manual (2008) at 97-98.

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From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 2:16 PM
To: 'plouis'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Patricia:

I understand that several organizations will take part in sponsoring food and other parts of the Antigua travel. However, I need clarification on the official sponsor; that organization providing travel, lodging, and organizing the trip? Am I to assume it is CARIB NEWS? The official sponsoring organization must not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent (and the sponsor must have a direct and immediate relationship with the event or location being visited). To assist with this, I am scanning information/guidelines and emailing in just a moment. Please provide a fax number if that method of submittal will be more helpful. If there is someone handling this matter, please provide me their direct contact information as I must ensure adherence to these new guidelines pre-travel.

In any event, I do need to know who the official sponsor will be. I have assigned a staff attorney to review your documents and will remain in contact with you until this matter is finalized.

Please respond today or tomorrow at the latest. I will be traveling for a while thereafter and must ensure that my staff attorney has all that is necessary for a safe review.

Dawn Kelly Mobley
Ethics Counsel for Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones
Chairwoman, Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. of Representatives.
Washington, DC 20545
202/226-7103

60. Later in the afternoon on September 19, 2007, Ms. Mobley sent Ms. Louis another e-mail where she discussed the limitations posed by the new travel rules the House had adopted in 2007. Ms. Mobley told Ms. Louis, "the new rules might prohibit some things you were able to do with so many different sponsors in the past." Thus, Ms. Mobley again acknowledged that these corporations were sponsors and that the new travel rules affected the nature of their participation in the trip.⁵⁰

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 3:23 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Lastly, just send the sponsor form asap for review. The new rules might prohibit some things you were able to do with so many different sponsors in the past, but until we get the form, we can't make the most informed decision. I have let the Congresswomen know we are awaiting your sponsor form. Just as you do, they would also like assurance. Thank you.

61. On September 21, 2007, Ms. Louis responded.⁵¹

⁵⁰ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 19, 2007, 3:23 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0203).

⁵¹ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Sept. 21, 2007, 1:56 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0201).

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Registration

From: plouls [plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2007 1:56 PM
To: 'Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Re Sponsorship Information

The official sponsor of the conference is the CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION, a not-for-profit 501C3 Organization that provides educational information about the Caribbean Region and its relationship with the US in doing business and developing good neighborly ties with the United States, security, health, education etc.

The CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION does not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent.

Please use me as your contact for the purposes of this Conference.

The form will be emailed to you this afternoon.

Regards

Patricia Louis

Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

62. That same day, on September 21, 2007, Ms. Louis faxed Ms. Mobley a Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form. On the form Carib News Foundation is listed as the sponsor of the trip in question 1.⁵²

⁵² Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form (Sept. 21, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0191).

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**U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct**

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

Carib News Foundatin

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): _____

63. However, the Carib News Foundation listed a number of corporations as private sponsors, each with responsibility for planning and conducting the trip, in question 12.⁵³ This is at least the second instance where the Carib News Foundation identified these corporations as the trip's sponsors.

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: Pfizer-Education/health AT&T and IBM - provide technology to the region. MACY's - seeks new vendor sources, Citibank - opportunities in the region.

64. This prompted the following e-mail from Ms. Mobley to Ms. Louis.⁵⁴ The Board notes that Ms. Mobley stated she was "working through" the Carib News Foundation's forms "before leaving them with our staff attorney."

⁵³ *Id.*

⁵⁴ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 25, 2007, 12:42 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0188).

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From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2007 12:42 PM
To: 'plouis'
Subject: Query

I am working through your forms before leaving them with our staff attorney and have a question. Query: Why did you not list CARIB-NEWS as the sponsor as you'd indicated instead of Macy's, etc. The official sponsor for travel, lodging, and planning is still Carib News, correct?

65. Later that same day, Ms. Mobley queried further.⁵⁵ At least as of this date, following at least two instances where Ms. Louis identified these corporations as sponsors, Ms. Mobley appeared to treat these entities as "co-sponsors."

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:08 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Query

We are trying to work through a problem in approving the co-sponsors piece. Are they each paying for a one-day, widely attended event or more days? Please read the Gift Rules I forwarded you on this matter.

66. On October 3, 2007, Ms. Mobley informed Ms. Louis that Susan Olson was the staff attorney assigned to review the trip.⁵⁶

67. A copy of the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form provided to a Member's office on October 5, 2007, shows that by October 5, 2007, following its interaction with Ms. Mobley, Carib News Foundation changed its answer to question 12 regarding other private sponsors. As previously highlighted, as of September 21, 2007, Carib News Foundation provided the following answer to question 12.⁵⁷

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: Pfizer-Education/Health
AT&T and IBM - provide technology to the region. MACY's - seeks new vendor sources, Gilbank- opportunities
in the region.

68. However, as of October 5, 2007, it provided a different answer to question 12.⁵⁸

⁵⁵ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 25, 2007, 5:08 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0188).
⁵⁶ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 3, 2007, 12:39 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0185).
⁵⁷ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form (Sept. 21, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0192).
⁵⁸ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form (Oct. 5, 2007) (Exhibit 18 at 09-6333 0207).

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12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:
CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (SEE ATTACHED SHEET)

And the attached sheet provided the following information.⁵⁹

Item #12
CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

On October 10, 2007, Susan Olson, the staff attorney on the Standards Committee assigned to review the trip e-mailed Ms. Louis the following questions⁶⁰ (and copied Ms. Mobley and the Chief Counsel of the Standards Committee at that time, Bill O'Reilly). While the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form for the trip had been changed by this date, the draft agenda for the conference apparently had not and still showed corporate sponsors for various events. What Ms. Olson does not appear to be aware of is the fact that Carib News Foundation had previously identified the same corporations she is raising questions about as private sponsors on its original Private Sponsor Travel Certification form.

Original Message
From: Olson, Susan [mailto: Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn, Kelly Mobley@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:
With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's

⁵⁹ *Id.* at 09-6333 0211

⁶⁰ E-mail from Susan Olson to Patricia Louis (Oct. 10, 2007, 4:01 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0174).

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(Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring" sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses, including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]" which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference, primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

69. The Committee's Advisory Opinion dated October 27, 2006 indicates, as Ms. Olson wrote, that Carib News Foundation told the Standards Committee in 2006 that there were several corporate entities that sponsored the conference.⁶¹ The "Advisory Opinion" did not conclude that these entities were, in fact, the trip's sponsors, as the e-mail seems to indicate.

⁶¹ Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, Advisory Opinion (Oct. 27, 2006) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0197-0199).

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70. A draft agenda for the conference dated October 3, 2007, identified a “sponsor” for each event listed.⁶² This appears to be the version of the agenda that Olson is referring to in her e-mail. For example, “Preferred Health Partners” is identified as the sponsor of this event on “Port & Airport Security—The Mandates.”⁶³

PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES	
Moderator	Lance Ogiste
	Hon. Bennie Thompson
	Dr. Basil Wilson
Sponsor	Preferred Health Partners

And Citi is identified as the sponsor of this event on “Community Outreach – Education – Access and Collaboration.”⁶⁴

4:00pm - 5:30pm	-	COMMUNITY OUTREACH -
		<u>EDUCATION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION</u>
Venue:	-	Off Site
Sponsor	-	CITI
Moderator:	-	Michael Flanigan
Speakers:	-	Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College
		Hon. Danny Davis - Member of Congress
		Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City
		Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress
		Hon. Bertrand Joseph

⁶² Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 3, 2007) (Exhibit 19 at 09-6333 0213-0229).

⁶³ *Id.* at 09-6333 0219

⁶⁴ *Id.* at 09-6333 0225

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71. Ms. Louis forwarded Ms. Olson's e-mail to Ms. Mobley, Congressman Charles Rangel's Chief of Staff George Dalley and Delegate Donna Christensen's scheduler Shelley Thomas, and asked them to advise her on a response.⁶⁵

-----Original Message-----
From: plouis <plouis@nycaribnews.com>
To: Kelly Mobley; Dawn Thomas; Shelley Dalley; George
Sent: Wed Oct 10 17:56:25 2007
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval issues

Please see e-mail I received from Ms. Olson of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

A possible response could be: The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation. As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Please advise us.

Regards and Thanks

Ms. Louis appears to be pre-clearing her response to questions posed by the Standards Committee staff attorney. There is no indication that the staff attorney knew that the answer to her question had already been discussed with the counsel to the then-chair of the Standards Committee. Substantively, based on documents obtained by the OCE and interviews with sponsors, the statement "the sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip" appears to be true. However, the statement "and the general work of the Foundation," does not appear to be true. All of the sponsors OCE interviewed stated unequivocally that the contribution was intended for the conference.⁶⁶

⁶⁵ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley, George Dalley, and Shelley Thomas (Oct. 10, 2007, 5:56 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0177).

⁶⁶ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of IBM (May 8, 2009) (Exhibit 9); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation (Mar. 23, 2009) (Exhibit 11); Memorandum of Interview of Representative of Citi (Mar. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 4); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Macy's (May 28, 2009) (Exhibit 20).

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72. Less than an hour later Ms. Mobley responded.⁶⁷ The Board notes Ms. Mobley's concern with whether any of the corporate sponsors paid for an event and also retained a lobbyist" and her conclusion that if they did, Members of Congress could only attend for one day.

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 6:49 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Her question centers on whether any of these "co-sponsors" retains a lobbyist or foreign. This is the issue you and I focused on previously. It is a central problem if any do and are paying for the events. If so, you are in the same position as last year with one-day events. Call Susan back tomorrow as early as possible. Hopefully, these co-sponsors don't retain lobbyists, but you should have their representations on this matter. At a minimum, Macy's does, right? Alternatively, if they are only sponsoring event tables or the like, a lobbyist will not be problematic.

Sent using BlackBerry

73. Ms. Louis then faxed Ms. Mobley.⁶⁸ The Board notes that Ms. Louis again appears to be pre-clearing her responses to the staff attorney, Ms. Olson, with Ms. Mobley ("Kindly review and advise before I send to Ms. Olson.").

⁶⁷ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 10, 2007, 6:49 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0179).

⁶⁸ Fax from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Oct. 11, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0176).

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CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	FROM:
Dawn Kelly Mobley	P. Louis
COMPANY:	DATE:
Ethics Counsel for Cong. Stephanie Tubbs Jones	10/11/07
FAX NUMBER:	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER
202-225-7392	
RE: Travel Form	

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Further to our conversations of this morning, following is the Travel Certification Form..

The Conference is paid for by the Carib News Foundation. The companies are participants, are not sponsors or co-sponsors for any part of the trip and play no role in the planning or content.

The program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants.

I regret the mis-understanding and thank you for holding my hand as I go through and grow through this process which is new to me.

Kindly review and advise before I send to Ms. Olsen.

I look forward to hearing from you.

74. The Board further notes that Ms. Louis represented that, "the program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants," an action taken following Ms. Louis' interactions with Ms. Mobley. A copy of the revised agenda was submitted by another

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Member of Congress who attended the conference.⁶⁹ The Board notes that this “updated” schedule changed the label applied to “sponsors” to “participants” and in some cases deleted any mention of the corporate entity that had previously been identified as a “sponsor.”

*Updated Schedule
for Carib News*

10/24/2007 19:00 2129442089 PAGE 03

WORKING DRAFT 10/22

**12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
Antigua & Barbuda**

75. This event was previously identified in the earlier draft as being “sponsored” by Preferred Health Partners.⁷⁰ Now it identifies them as merely a “participant.”⁷¹

PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES

Moderator : Mr. Lance Ogilvie
Hon. Bernice Thompson
Hon. Dwer Astephan

Venue Sandals Grande

Participant - Preferred Health Partners

⁶⁹ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 22, 2007) (Exhibit 21 at 09-6333 0235-0246).

⁷⁰ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 3, 2007) (Exhibit 19 at 09-6333 0219).

⁷¹ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 22, 2007) (Exhibit 21 at 09-6333 0239).

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76. In another example, the Board notes that the following event was previously identified as being sponsored by CITI.⁷² Now CITI is not even mentioned.⁷³ Michael Flanigan, the moderator, was an executive at CITI at the time and represented the company at the conference.⁷⁴

5:00pm - 6:50pm	-	COMMUNITY OUTREACH - <u>EDUCATION & YOUTH DIRECTION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION</u>
Venue:	*	Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Centre
Moderator:	-	Michael Flanigan
Speakers:	-	Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress Hon. Bertrand Joseph

77. These changes were entirely cosmetic. There is no indication that the corporations' substantive role in the conference changed in any way.

78. That same day, October 11, 2007, Ms. Louis responded to Ms. Olson, stating that "[t]he sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip."⁷⁵ The Board notes that this is precisely the answer she had pre-cleared with Mobley.

⁷² Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 3, 2007) (Exhibit 19 at 09-6333 0225).

⁷³ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 22, 2007) (Exhibit 21 at 09-6333 0245).

⁷⁴ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of Citi (Mar. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 4 at 09-6333 0053).

⁷⁵ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Susan Olson (Oct. 10, 2007, 10:33 AM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0173).

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From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:33 AM
To: Olson, Susan
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,
In response to your e-mail:

The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation.

As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program

that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the

Conference.

No federally registered lobbyist or foreign agent will be accompanying the Members of participating in the program.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

79. Ms. Olson then forwarded her exchange with Ms. Louis to Bill O'Reilly, the Staff Director and Chief Counsel of the Ethics Committee at that time, and to Dawn Mobley.⁷⁶ Based on this e-mail, it appears that Ms. Olson was unaware that Mobley had been communicating directly with the Carib News Foundation. There is also no evidence that Ms. Mobley told her she had been involved in this manner. Witnesses for the various sponsors told the OCE that they did contribute funding directly to the trip (the conference) and in no case did they simply make donations to the "general funds" of the CARIB NEWS or the Carib News Foundation.⁷⁷

⁷⁶ E-mail from Susan Olson to Bill O'Reilly and Dawn Kelly Mobley (Oct. 12, 2007 9:29 AM) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0172).

⁷⁷ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of IBM (May 8, 2009) (Exhibit 9); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation (Mar. 23, 2009) (Exhibit 11); Memorandum of Interview of Representative of Citi (Mar. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 4); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Macy's (May 28, 2009) (Exhibit 20).

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From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:29 AM
To: O'Reilly, Bill; Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-Trip Approval Issues

Bill and Dawn,
Please note the following response from Ms. Louis at Carib News: Unfortunately, it appears that if each sponsor contributes funding directly to the trip (an earmark of funds) and not simply to the general funds of Carib News, then the assumption is that all of these entities are co-sponsors of the trip for purposes of the House travel rules. If that is the case and since it is likely that at least one of these co-sponsors hires or retains a federally registered lobbyist, the trip could only be a one-day event trip. Thus the Committee can't approve the trip as it currently exists.

But, if you have a different interpretation of the below information from Ms. Louis, please do let me know. Thanks! Susan

80. Ms. Mobley then forwarded Ms. Olson's internal e-mail to Ms. Louis.⁷⁸ The Board notes that Ms. Mobley counseled that these "other organizations" can "participate" in the program but "should not help pay for the trip."

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:59 AM
To: 'plouis'
Subject: FW: Confidential

Please read both emails below. Give Susan a call as soon as you work through the kink, let her know you are following up. Please make yourself available to work through this matter today. Thank you Patricia. (These other organizations can participate in the program but should not help pay for the trip).

81. Later that day, Ms. Mobley sent Ms. Louis an additional e-mail.⁷⁹ As previously stated, the sponsors whom the OCE interviewed all stated that they did not "support [the] foundation annually" and did specifically designate their donations for the 2007 conference. Either Ms. Mobley was repeating inaccurate information Ms. Louis had given her, or she was giving inaccurate information to Ms. Olson without prompting.

⁷⁸ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 12, 2007 9:59 AM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0172).

⁷⁹ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 12, 2007 1:55 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0172).

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Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 1:55 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Confidential

The fax did not come through. I will be stepping out of the office for the remainder of the day, but will be in early Monday. Please follow up again with Susan. I have explained that the organizations you labeled as co-sponsors are not. They support your foundation annually, but have not and will not pay for the Members trip. This is simply a misunderstanding of the terms "sponsor", "contributor", and "participant" as used in the Ethics rules which is why I sent you the Rules book for preparation.

Once you are able to clarify these issues and make sure your Itinerary passes too, you should be fine. An Ethics Committee Staff Attorney must review and approve as well. Your Staff Attorney is Susan.

82. Ms. Olson then sent Ms. Louis additional questions about the corporate entities previously identified as "sponsors."⁸⁰

From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 2:41 PM
To: plouis
cc: Kelly Mobley, Dawn; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Louis,

Please explain in more detail your email message below relative to the "sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip." In this regard, do the following entities pay for any of the expenses of the trip for the invited House Members, including roundtrip air transportation costs, lodging costs, meal costs, cost of a particular meal or reception, etc.?

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM

⁸⁰ E-mail from Susan Olson to Patricia Louis (Oct. 12, 2007 2:41 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0167-0168).

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- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

83. Three days later, Ms. Louis sent an e-mail to Ms. Mobley, but addressed to Ms. Olson.⁸¹ This may have been inadvertent or, based on their previous practice, Ms. Louis may have done this before she then sent it to Ms. Olson. This is the final communication regarding the 2007 conference provided to the OCE.

From: plouis [plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 11:00 AM
To: 'Kelly Mobley, Dawn'
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,

In response to your e-mail, the answer to your question is NO.

Regards and Thanks for your patience.

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

84. In an interview with the OCE, a staff member of Representative Rangel's office described discussions with Ms. Louis and Ms. Mobley in 2007 on the topic of how the new travel rules would affect the Members' participation in the 2007 conference.⁸² The staff member said that Ms. Louis, and Mr. and Mrs. Rodney told him that the then Chair of the Standards Committee had assigned her counsel on the Committee, Ms. Mobley, to

⁸¹ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Oct. 15, 2007 11:00 AM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-6333 0167).

⁸² Memorandum of Interview of Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office (May 27-28, 2009) (Exhibit 22 at 09-6333 0249).

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“find a way” to allow Members of Congress to participate in the conference under the new travel rules passed by the House in 2007.⁸³ The staff member told the OCE that Congressman Rangel told him that the then-Chair had made similar statements to him.⁸⁴

85. The staff member said the “framework” that was decided upon was that the Carib News Foundation would raise money from corporate donors who had previously sponsored the conference and that this money in turn would be deposited in a “common fund” that would then be used to pay for the conference.⁸⁵ It was the staff member’s understanding that if this was done, then Members of Congress could participate in the conference without any restrictions imposed by the new rules. The staff member said that it was important to break the link between the corporations and the conference under the new rules and that using the Foundation in this way would enable that to happen. The staff member said he learned of this new framework for the conference from Mr. and Mrs. Rodney and that they represented this approach had come from Ms. Mobley on the Standards Committee.⁸⁶

86. This conduct in 2007 is relevant to the present reviews for a number of reasons. First, in and of itself, the intervention of the Chair’s counsel in this matter is troubling and more likely constituted an improper manipulation of the clearance process. Following Ms. Mobley’s intervention, Carib News Foundation changed the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form to delete any mention of private sponsors before it was sent to the Standards Committee’s staff attorney assigned to review the matter. This occurred after Carib News Foundation had told Ms. Mobley that these corporations were sponsors of the conference on several occasions. Ms. Louis’s initial, and presumably truthful, submissions regarding the conference described the corporate entities as sponsors. However, if the corporations were sponsors of the conference, as opposed to Carib News Foundation, then the Members of Congress ability to attend would have been limited because, the corporations, unlike the Carib News Foundation, employed or retained lobbyists. It appears from the correspondence between Ms. Mobley and Ms. Louis, and Ms. Olson’s apparent ignorance of the correspondence, that Ms. Mobley assisted Ms. Louis in preparing inaccurate answers for Ms. Olson in order to ensure that Ms. Olson would approve the trip in a manner that would not limit the attendance of the Members of Congress. Ms. Mobley’s involvement in the process seems to have prevented the Standards Committee and its staff from correctly performing its responsibilities. Ms. Olson’s approval of the trip was predicated on an incomplete or inaccurate factual record,

⁸³ *Id.* at 09-6333 0250.

⁸⁴ *Id.* at 0250.

⁸⁵ *Id.* at 0249.

⁸⁶ *Id.*

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in which Ms. Mobley apparently was complicit, putting at risk those Members of Congress who relied on that approval.

87. The 2007 conduct and attendant misrepresentations appear to have directly influenced what occurred in 2008. When the Carib News Foundation submitted materials to the Standards Committee for their approval of the 2008 conference, the Carib News Foundation took the same approach that they had been counseled to take in 2007 and did not disclose the role of the corporate sponsors on the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form or the conference agenda.
88. In fact, in 2008, Carib News Foundation again first submitted its document to Ms. Mobley.⁸⁷ The Board notes that while Ms. Mobley remains an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives as of the date of this report, the above described conduct did not occur after the day the House passed the resolution creating the OCE, and therefore, under the terms of the that resolution, the OCE does not have jurisdiction to open a preliminary review into Ms. Mobley's conduct.

⁸⁷ Fax from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Aug. 20, 2008) (Exhibit 23 at 09-6333 0255).

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CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Kelly Mobley FROM: Patricia Louis
COMPANY: Committee on Standards of official conduct DATE: 8/20/08
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392 TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: 2008 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Following is the completed form and attachments re travel for Members of Congress to attend the 2008 Multinational Business Conference scheduled for November 6-9, 2008 in St. Maarten.

Regards

IV. The Value of the Trip Reported on the Member's Post-Travel Disclosure Form

89. Under House Rule 25 clause 5(d), Members are required to obtain prior approval of the Standards Committee for trips where the Member's travel expenses will be reimbursed by a private source. The Standards Committee has adopted regulations, including a pre- and post-travel form Members must complete, pursuant to House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B)⁸⁸ that requires Members to publicly disclose "trip expenses."

90. According to the House Ethics Manual, "[t]he rule and implementing regulations are concerned with the organization(s) or individual(s) that actually pay for travel." House Ethics Manual (2008) at 97.

⁸⁸ House Rule 25(5)(h)(i)(1)(B) directs the Standards Committee to establish, "regulations describing the information it will require individuals subject to this clause to submit to the committee in order to obtain the prior approval of the committee for any travel covered by this clause . . ." On February 20, 2007, the Committee issued guidelines and regulations concerning the travel restrictions and requirements.

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91. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Rangel violated House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B) by underreporting the value of the travel reimbursements he received to attend the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference.

A. Representations from Carib News Foundation

92. Carib News Foundation submitted a Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form to each Member it sponsored for the 2008 trip—Representatives Christensen, Kilpatrick, Payne, Rangel and Thompson.⁸⁹ This form was provided to each Member Office and then submitted by the Member Office to the Standards Committee as part of the pre-travel approval process.

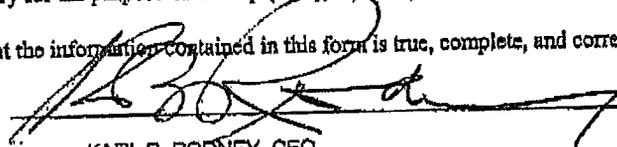
21. **TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:**

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	410	280	145
For each accompanying family member	410	0	145

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$150 \$ 25	Conference Registration Local transportation
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

⁸⁹ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form signed by Karl Rodney (Oct. 3, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-6333 0004-0013).

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93. The Board notes that the Carib News Foundation provided the same exact dollar figure with very minor variations for each Member of Congress that attended the conference despite the fact that Carib News Foundation recognized on the same form that the Congressional travelers were travelling to and from different cities. In fact, the Congressional travelers came from St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands; Detroit, Michigan; Newark, New Jersey; New York, New York; and Jackson, Mississippi.
94. The Board notes that the Carib News Foundation provided the same "total transportation" figure to the Congressional travelers despite the fact that Carib News Foundation had, in its own files, airline tickets and receipts for each Congressional traveler that showed, with the exception of Congressman Payne, that the actual cost of the ticket was significantly higher.
95. In addition, according to Mr. Rodney, the cost charged to "the public" to attend the conference for four days and three nights was \$840 for double occupancy or \$1085 for single occupancy. The cost of attendance included "room accommodations, meals, and admission to the Conference." However, these figures were not disclosed pre-travel to the Members or the Standards Committee, nor were these figures disclosed to the Members after the conference.

B. Information Required from the Congressional Traveler

96. On his Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form,⁹⁰ Representative Rangel certified his travel cost as the following:

⁹⁰ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Representative Charles B. Rangel (Nov. 24, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-6333 0003).

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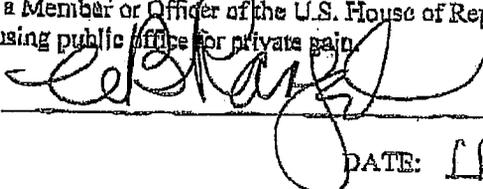
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9. **TRIP EXPENSES:** Obtain actual dollar amounts from the sponsor. If exact dollar amounts are unavailable by the due date, provide a good faith estimate and file an amended form once the correct amounts are received.

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses
For Member or Officer:	\$410.00	\$260.00	\$145.00
For accompanying family member:			

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Specific Nature of Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For Member or Officer:	\$150.00; \$25.00	Conference Registration; Local Transportation
For accompanying family member:		

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER: 

DATE: 11-21-08

Version date 9/2008 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

97. Unlike the other Members of Congress who attended the conference, who apparently used the November 18, 2008 memo to complete the post-travel disclosure, it appears that the figures that Congressman Rangel certified are identical to the estimates Mr. Rodney provided in the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form submitted for pre-travel approval provide to Congressman Rangel from Mr. Rodney on November 18, 2008.⁹¹

98. Congressman Rangel stated he never saw a plane ticket or anything bearing the cost of his flight. The airline would have given him something with which to locate his seat, but that was the extent of what he may have seen.⁹²

⁹¹ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form signed by Karl Rodney (Oct. 3, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-6333 0006).

⁹² Memorandum of Interview of Representative Charles Rangel (May 28, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-6333 0020).

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99. Documents obtained from Mr. Rodney indicate Congressman Rangel's transportation costs were actually \$752.15.⁹³

FOR: RANGEL/CHARLES

07 NOV 08 - FRIDAY	AIR AMERICAN AIRLINES	FLT: 667	ECONOMY	FOOD FOR PURCHASE
	LV NEW YORK JFK		745A	EQ: BOEING 757
	DEPART: TERMINAL 8			04HR 05MIN
	AR ST MAARTEN		1250P	NON-STOP
	RANGEL/CHARLES	SEAT-17D	AA-HAD6146	

09 NOV 08 - SUNDAY	AIR AMERICAN AIRLINES	FLT: 660	ECONOMY	FOOD FOR PURCHASE
	LV ST MAARTEN		200P	EQ: BOEING 757
	AR NEW YORK JFK		540P	04HR 40MIN
	ARRIVE: TERMINAL 8			NON-STOP
	RANGEL/CHARLES	SEAT-18F	AA-HAD6146	

*****ATTN AAD *****

AIRFARE 752.15 ROUNDTRIP COACH. THE 5 PERCENT DISCOUNT FROM THE GROUP MEETING CONTRACT HAS BEEN APPLIED THIS IS A NON-REFUNDABLE FARE.

() GUARANTEED THE PRICE THE TICKET MUST BE ISSUED BY 17OCT08. IF THE TICKET IS PURCHASED ON A LATER DATE THE RESERVATION WILL BE RE-PRICED ON THE DAY THE TICKET IS ISSUED.

AFTER THE TICKET IS ISSUED ** CHANGES ** 150.00 FEE /EACH CHANGE/ AND A POSSIBLE FARE DIFFERENCE.

THANKS,
DONNA
ELECTRONIC TICKET

PASSENGER TICKET AND BAGGAGE CHECK
ELECTRONIC TICKET
American Airlines
27OCT08 091812Z
NOT VALID FOR TRAVEL
NONREF/CHG FEE APPLIES/NO VALUE AFTER FLT TIME
00112184722104 001 2190158847 6

100. In his interview with OCE, Congressman Rangel stated that he did not see any documented dollar amounts for airline ticket, the registration fee or for the cost of meals. He stated that, although he signed the certification, he had no idea if the numbers on the forms were accurate. His Chief of Staff filled out all the paperwork.⁹⁴ Representative Rangel did not know how much his meals cost or what "transportation" referred to other than his flight.⁹⁵ In an interview with the OCE, a staff member of Representative Rangel's office stated that while he did not remember whether the itinerary, above, was given to the Member, it was the kind of document that was typically placed in his briefing book so that he could travel. The staff member also pointed out that the receipt

⁹³ Flight Reservation for Representative Charles Rangel (Oct. 27, 2008) (Exhibit 24 at 09-6333 0279).

⁹⁴ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Charles Rangel (May 28, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-6333 0020).

⁹⁵ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Charles Rangel (May 28, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-6333 0020).

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for the electronic ticket, also above, was a document that only would be printed after the Member checked in at the airport for his flight.⁹⁶

V. Carib News Foundation, as a Private Foundation, Was Prohibited From Paying for Congressman Rangel's Travel

101. The Carib News Foundation is identified as the "sponsor" of this conference on at least three forms filed with the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct: (1) the "Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form,"; (2) the "Privately Sponsored Travel: Travel Form," and; (3) the "Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form."⁹⁷

102. According to a query of the New York State's Office of the Secretary of State, Mr. Rodney appears to operate two organizations – the "Carib News, Inc" which operates a newspaper and the "Carib News Charities, Inc" which also may operate under the name "Carib News Foundation." The OCE has not been able to identify any additional activity, other than the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, in which the latter organization is involved. Furthermore, while "Carib News Charities, Inc" / "Carib News Foundation" is listed with New York's Office of the Secretary of State as a domestic not-for-profit corporation, it is not listed, as required by law, with the New York State Charities Bureau. In addition, there is no evidence that the organization has filed a tax return with the IRS, under either name, since 2005.⁹⁸

103. Every organization that qualifies for tax exemption described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code is defined as a private foundation unless the organization falls into one of the categories specifically excluded from the definition under section 509(a).⁹⁹ In effect, the definition divides 501(c)(3) organizations into two classes: private foundations and public charities. Private foundations are generally funded through a single donor, family or corporation and operate through investment income; whereas, public charities are typically funded and operated through diversified support from governmental sources and the general public.

104. There are several restrictions that are placed on private foundations. At issue here is the restriction on "self-dealing" between a disqualified person (the definition of which

⁹⁶ Memorandum of Interview of Staff Member 1 of Congressman's Rangel's Office (May 27-28) (Exhibit 22 at 09-6333 0253).

⁹⁷ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Representative Charles B. Rangel (Nov. 24, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-6333 0002).

⁹⁸ Letter from IRS to OCE (Apr. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 8 at 09-6333 0095).

⁹⁹ 26 U.S.C. §§ 501 and 509.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

includes Members of Congress) and a private foundation.¹⁰⁰ The Code defines the act of "self-dealing" to include any direct or indirect agreement to make any payment of money (including reimbursement of expenses) or other property by a private foundation to a government official.¹⁰¹ Although framed as a tax provision, the statute essentially bars certain federal employees and federally elected officials from receiving compensation, including reimbursements for international travel, from a private foundation.¹⁰²

105. According to Publication 78 of the IRS, a list of all charities claiming 501(c) status, Carib Charities, Inc is a private foundation.¹⁰³

106. As such, it appears that the Carib News Foundation's payment of travel expenses for Representative Rangel and his acceptance of payment potentially violated the Internal Revenue Code.

107. The Board infers from the fact that the Standards Committee approved the reimbursement that the Standards Committee is unaware of this restriction. The Board notes, however, that its own research revealed that numerous other ethics-related entities in the federal government are aware of this restriction, and enforced it for some time.¹⁰⁴

108. Congressman Rangel told the OCE that he was unaware of any limitations on the ability of private foundations to pay for overseas travel by government officials.¹⁰⁵

109. The Board notes that these facts show failures at multiple points by multiple parties in complying with and enforcing the travel rules. Inaccurate information was provided by the Carib News Foundation to Members and the Standards Committee. Congressman Rangel certified inaccurate information to the Standards Committee. The counsel to the former Chair of the Standards Committee intervened in the review process in a way that both frustrated the process in 2007 and set a pattern of obfuscation that continued in

¹⁰⁰ 26 U.S.C. §§ 4941 and 4946.

¹⁰¹ 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(1)(F). The Code imposes a tax (currently 10 percent of the amount involved) on the illegal payments, with later penalties (up to \$20,000 per act of self-dealing) for failure to pay back the foundation. The tax is imposed on the disqualified person, including a government official if the official participates in the act of self-dealing knowingly.

¹⁰² The payment or reimbursement of travel expenses for travel solely from one point in the United States to another point in the United States is excepted from the definition of self-dealing provided that the payment or reimbursement does not exceed the actual cost of the transportation involved and provided the amount for all other traveling expenses does not exceed 125 percent of the maximum amount payable under section 5702 of title 5, United States Code, for like travel by employees of the United States. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(2)(G)(vii).

¹⁰³ Online Version of Publication 78 (Accessed online on June 5, 2009 at <http://www.irs.gov/app/pub-78/>) (Exhibit 8 at 09-6333 0107.1-0107.2).

¹⁰⁴ Memorandum from Ethics Counsel at the National Institutes of Health to Deputy Ethics Counsels at NIH (Jun. 2, 2000) (Exhibit 25 at 09-6333 0281-0282).

¹⁰⁵ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Charles Rangel (May 28, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-6333 0022).

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

2008. Finally, the Standards Committee appears unaware of limitations on the ability of private foundations to pay for overseas travel by Members.

110. For all these reasons, the Board concludes further review of this matter by the Standards Committee is appropriate.

EXHIBIT 1

Original Amendment

U.S. House of Representatives
110th Congress

2008 NOV 24 PM 3:05

MEMBER / OFFICER
POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties. You need not disclose government-funded or political travel on this form, or travel that is unrelated to official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report all privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual Financial Disclosure Statement. In accordance with clause 5 of House Rule 25, complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, B-106 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed. The Clerk is to make these forms available to the public as soon as possible after they are received.

1. Name of Traveler: Representative Charles B. Rangel
2. a. Name of Accompanying Family Member (if any): N/A
 b. Relationship to Member/Officer: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Date of Departure and Date of Return: 11/7/08 - 11/9/08
 b. Dates at personal expense (if any): N/A
4. Itinerary (cities of departure - destination - return): NY (JFK) - St. Maarten - NY (JFK)
5. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): Carib News Foundation
6. Describe meetings and events attended (attach additional pages if necessary): The conference focused on advancing trade and commercial relations between the City of New York and the nations of the Caribbean which are governed by U.S. trade law under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means which I Chair.
7. Attached to this form are EACH of the following (signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box):
 - a. the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form completed by trip sponsor, including all attachments;
 - b. the Traveler Form completed by the Member or officer; and
 - c. the Committee on Standards' letter approving my participation on this trip.
8. a. I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the sponsor's agenda. (Signify that statement is true by checking box):
 b. If not, explain: I did not depart for the conference until 11/7/08 but I participated until the end when I left on 11/9/08.

RANGEL.

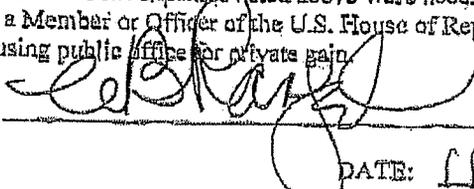
9. TRIP EXPENSES: Obtain actual dollar amounts from the sponsor. If exact dollar amounts are unavailable by the due date, provide a good faith estimate and file an amended form once the correct amounts are received.

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses
For Member or Officer:	\$410.00	\$260.00	\$145.00
For accompanying family member:			

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Specific Nature of Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For Member or Officer:	\$180.00; \$25.00	Conference Registration; Local Transportation
For accompanying family member:		

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER:



DATE: 11-21-08

Version date 9/2008 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): BASED ON COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE WHICH IMPACTS US/CARIBBEAN RELATIONS ON WHICH THE MEMBER SERVES,
6. Dates of travel: NOVEMBER 8-9, 2008
7. Cities of departure -- destination -- return: VARIES - DEPENDING ON MEMBER
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
 - a. One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered:If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: _____
 CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (* SEE ATTACHED)
13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: _____
 THE INTEREST OF CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION IS TO PROMOTE, INFORM, TRADE AND
 ESTABLISHMENT OF MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE U.S AND THE CARIBBEAN
14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted: _____
 REGULAR SCHEDULED AIR SERVICE, ECONOMY CLASS
15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):
16. I represent that either (check one of the following):
 a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: or
 b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:
 If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____
17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: SEE ATTACHED
18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: SONESTA MAHO BEACH RESORT
19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$110.00
20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: HAS APPROPRIATE MEETING ROOMS

21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	410	280	145
For each accompanying family member	410	0	145

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$150 \$ 25	Conference Registration Local transportation
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information obtained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

Address: 7 WEST 36th STREET, 8th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

Telephone number: (212) 944-1991

Fax number: (212) 944-2089

Email Address: CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. House of Representatives
HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-7103 (phone)
(202) 225-7392 (general fax)
(202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Revised date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INVITED TO THE
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS
CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 6-9, 2008, ST. MAARTEN, N.A.

Congresswoman Diane E. Watson
Congressman David Scott
Congressman James Clyburn
Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez
Congressman Charles Rangel
Congressman Donald Payne
Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
Congressman Edolphus Towns
Congressman G. K. Butterfield
Congressman Gregory Meeks
Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.
Congressman Keith Ellison
Congressman Kendrick Meek
Congresswoman Maxine Waters
Congressman Melvin Watt
Congressman Robert Scott
Congressman William Lacy Clay
Congresswoman Barbara Lee
Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
Congresswoman Corrine Brown
Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
Congressman Danny Davis
Congressman Bennie Thompson
Congresswoman Laura Richardson

July 2008



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Item#17

A Caribbean country whose proximity to other Caribbean Countries makes it conveniently located for delegates from the other Caribbean countries to attend.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

CARIBBEAN MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

CARIBBEAN NEWS PROGRAM

MAKING BUSINESS BETTER



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[The 2008 Program Agenda](#)

[\[View 2007 Agenda\]](#)

Theme : A Region In Transition - Strategy For Change - Building Alliances

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 6TH 2008

13TH ANNUAL CARIBBEAN MULTI NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
Time - 12:00 Noon to 6:00 PM

TOWN HALL FORUM - HEALTH
Time - 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM

- Healthy Living - 'The Worldwide Challenge'
- Innovative Solutions For Life Styles
- Diseases - A Collaborative Approach - Diabetes, Hypertension, Obesity, Oral Health

Venue - Royal Islander
Moderator - Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

Speakers - Mrs. Karen Boykin-Towns, Congress Member Dr. Donna Christian Christensen, Commissioner Maria Buncamper Molanus, Health Commissioner, St Maarten, Dr. John Palmer, Harlem Hospital Center Dr. Jay Cowan, National Medical Association, Dr. Leon Merrick - Merrick's Dental Studio, First Lady Michelle Paige Paterson, Health Advocate

MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE OPENING RECEPTION
Time - 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM
Venue - Upper Pool
Theme - A Region In Transition

MC - Sabrina Hosang - Royal Caribbean Bakery

Speakers - Faye A. Rodney, Hon. Roy Marlin - Commissioner For Tourism & Finance Of St Maarten

MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE OPENING DINNER
Time - 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM
Venue - The Maho Room
Theme - A Strategy For Change

MC - Judge Sylvia Hinds-Radix

Speakers - Susan Taylor & Hon. Donald Payne, Member Of The United States Congress

HOSPITALITY AREA
Time - 10:00 PM to 1:00 AM

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 7TH 2008

BREAKFAST - OCEAN TERRACE

Time - 8:00 AM to 8:45 AM

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION (OCEAN TERRACE LOBBY) * CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT (SABA ROOM)

Time - 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM

BUSINESS CONFERENCE OPENING CEREMONIES

Time - 9:00 AM to 10:15 AM

Venue - Maho Room

Theme - Building Alliances For Progress

Invocation - Rev. Susan Johnson-Cook

Anthems - Saint Maarten 'Lift Every Voice'

Remarks - Eric Eve, Karen Boykin-Towns, Marie Long, Ed Goldberg, Patrick Gaston, Hazel Duker

Speakers - Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, Member US Congress * Commissioner Sarah Wescot Williams, Leader of Government, St. Maarten * Harry Belafonte

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONIES

Time - 10:15 AM to 10:30 AM Coffee Break * 10:30 AM to 11:45 AM Presentation

EDUCATION - TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES COLLABORATION

Moderator - Dr. Emmanuel Gonsalves

Greetings - Marie Long

Speakers - Dr. Edison Jackson, Patrick Gaston, Dr. Marcia Kelz, Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson, Professor Rex Nettleford

PRESENTATION - INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL & TOURISM 'TODAY'S ECONOMIC ENGINE'

Time - 12:00 Noon to 1:15 PM

Moderator - Lloyd A Williams, President & CEO of The Greater Harlem Chamber Of Commerce

Greeting - Wallace Ford

Speakers - Commissioner Roy Marlin, Howard Dodson, Congressman Gregory Meeks, Professor Rex Nettleford, Dr. Martin Valdes

PRESENTATION - HEALTH AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE REGION

Time - 12:00 Noon to 1:15 PM

Moderator - Yvonne Graham

Greeting - Karen Boykin Towns

Speakers - Dr. Denzil Douglas, Dr. Carl Kenel Pierre, Commissioner Maria Buncamper Molanus, Health Commissioner of St Maarten, Dr Dexter McKenzie

LUNCHEON

Time - 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM

Venue - Main Ballroom

Theme - Building A Winning Strategy - Partnerships That Works

Moderator - Hon. Nick Perry, NYS Assembly

Speaker - Eric Eve * Keynote Speaker - Hon. David Paterson, Governor New York State

ROUND TABLE ONE - EDUCATION - THINKFINITY PRESENTATION & DEMONSTRATION

Time - 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Venue - Royal Islander A

MC - Dr. Patricia Hazlewood

Speakers - Patrick Gaston & Albert Browne

ROUND TABLE TWO - LOCAL BUSINESS INITIATIVES

Time - 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Venue - Royal Islander B

Speaker - Ed Goldberg, Eric Eve, Albert Browne

TOWN HALL FORUM - EDUCATION SHARING WORKING SOLUTIONS

Time - 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM

Venue - Royal Islander A

Greetings - Michael Flanigan

Moderator - Dr. Marcella Maxwell

Speakers - Hon David M. Dinkins (Former Mayor, NYC), Dr. Edison O. Jackson, Dr. Marcia Keizs, Professor Rex Nettleford, UWI and William Payne, Assemblyman NJ

HOST COUNTRY EVENING - CULTURAL PRESENTATION

Time - 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM

HOSPITALITY AREA

Time - 10:00 PM to 1:00 AM

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 8 2008

BREAKFAST - OCEAN TERRACE

Time - 7:45 AM to 8:15 AM

PRESENTATION - WOMEN OF INFLUENCE AND POWER

Time - 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM

Venue - Maho Beach

Greeting & Opening Remarks - Brenda Scott

Moderator - Marilyn Johnson

Speakers - Commissioner Sarah Wescot Williams, Leader of Government Business, Dame Billie Miller, Former Deputy Prime Minister of Barbados, Dr. Marcia Keizs, President of York College, Michelle Paterson, First Lady New York State, Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson, Rev. Dr. Susan Johnson Cook

PRESENTATION - THE CARIBBEAN, IT'S VALUE & POTENTIAL IN TIMES OF CRISIS

Time - 10:15 AM to 11:45 AM

Venue - Royal Islander A

Greeting - Wallace Ford

Moderator - Dame Billie Miller

Speakers - Hon. P.J Patterson, former Prime Minister, Jamaica, Hon. Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister of St. Kitt-Nevis, Congressman Charles Rangel

PRIVATE MEETING CLOSED DOOR SESSION With Members Of Congress & Minister Of Government

Time - 12:00 Noon to 1:30 PM

PRESENTATION - TRADE & INVESTMENT - CREATIVE SOLUTIONS RETOOLING FOR GROWTH - PARTNERSHIP AT WORK

Time - 12:00 Noon to 1:15 PM

Venue - Royal Islander A

Greeting - Michael Flanigan

Moderator - Ivanhoe Friend

Speakers - Hon William Thompson, Comptroller, NYC, Adolfo Carrion, Borough President, Bronx, NY,

Congressman Edolphus Towns, Eric Eve

PRESENTATION - HEMISPHERIC SECURITY - PORTS/AIRPORTS - CRIME, DRUGS, DISASTER IN CHALLENGING TIMES

Time - 12:00 Noon to 1:15 PM

Venue - Royal Islander B

Greeting - Earl Brown, Deputy Borough President, Bronx, Judge Sylvia Ash, Tony Best, Congressman Bennie Thompson, Commissioner Theo Heyliger, St Maarten, Professor Ivelaw Griffith, Hon Lance Ogiste, Brooklyn District Attorney

LUNCHEON - AN AGENDA FOR PARTNERSHIP

Time - 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM

Venue - Maho Room

Greeting - Lloyd Brown

Speaker - Most Hon. P.J. Patterson, former Prime Minister of Jamaica & President of Hels Consults, Dr. Compton Bourne, President CDB

ROUND TABLE ONE - IMMIGRATION & DEPORTEES

Venue - Royal Islander A

Moderator - Dr. Marco Mason

Speakers - Congressman Bennie Thompson, Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson, Member US Congress, Attorney Stanford Rubenstein, NYC Councilmember Dr. Kendall Stewart

ROUND TABLE TWO - HAITI BOLD INITIATIVES - THE DIASPORA - CBC & CARICOM

Venue - Royal Islander B

Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham

Speakers - Hon. Charles Rangel, Hon. Gregory Meeks, Hon. Ralph Gonsalves, Dr. Lesly Kernisant

TOWN HALL FORUM - TECHNOLOGY

Venue - Royal Islander A

Moderator - Collin Ward

Greeting & Opening - Marie Long

Speakers - Congressman Edolphus Towns, Albert Browne, Commissioner of Technology, Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson

GALA RECEPTION

Time - 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM

Speaker - Susan Taylor

GALA DINNER & AWARDS PRESENTATION

Time - 7:30 PM to 10:00 PM

Speakers - Dr. Harry Belafonte, Hon. Sarah Wescot Williams, Leader of Government Business

HOSPITALITY AREA

Time - 10:30 PM to 1:00 AM

Venue - Hotel Conference Room

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 9TH 2008

POWER BREAKFAST - SPIRITUALITY THE BASICS IN BUSINESS
Time - 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM

Greeting - Lowell Hawthorne
Speakers - Ed Goldberg Local Minister

Selection - Local Choir

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POWERED BY JURAWAN TECHNOLOGY

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL: TRAVELER FORM
For Members, Officers, and Employees

This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection. Please type form. Form (and any attachments) may be faxed to the Committee at (202) 225-7392.

YOUR COMPLETED REQUEST MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE COMMITTEE NO LESS THAN 14 DAYS BEFORE YOUR PROPOSED DEPARTURE DATE. Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 14 days before the trip commences.

Name of Traveler: Charles B. Rangel

I certify that the information contained on both pages of this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

X Signature: CB Rangel

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): _____

For staff, name of employing Member/Committee: _____

Office address: 257 Rankin HOB, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

Phone number: (202) 225-4365

Email address of contact person: reich at george.college@mail.house.gov

Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet and the traveler is a Member traveling to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity and these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 14 days before the trip departure date.

NOTE: You must complete the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. House of Representatives
HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-7103 (phone)
(202) 225-7392 (fax)

Version date 9/2008 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL: TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Congressman Charles B. Rangel
2. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): New York Carib News Foundation
3. Travel destination(s): St. Maarten
4. a. Date of Departure and Date of Return: November 6 - 9, 2008
 b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense? Yes No
 If yes, dates at personal expense: _____
5. a. Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? Yes No
 b. If yes, name of accompanying family member: _____
 c. Relationship to traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
6. a. Did the trip sponsor answer "yes" to Question 9(c) on the Trip Sponsor form (i.e., the travel is being sponsored by an entity that employs a lobbyist)? Yes No
 b. If yes, check one of the following: N/A - Sponsor checked 9(a) or 9(b)
 (1) Approval for one-night's lodging and meals is being requested: or
 (2) Approval for two-nights' lodging and meals is being requested:
 If "(2)" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____
7. Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments (indicate that form is attached by checking box):
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to your individual official or representational duties:
This conference advances trade and commercial relations between the City of New York and the nation of the Caribbean which are general duties of U.S. Representatives.
9. FOR STAFF: Staff of the Committee on Ways and Means which is
 TO BE COMPLETED BY YOUR EMPLOYING MEMBER:

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Date: _____

Charles B. Rangel
Signature of Employing Member

NOTE: This page must be submitted with your post-travel disclosure form within 15 days of your return, so you should maintain a photocopy of the completed form for your records.

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Washington, DC 20515

October 23, 2008

The Honorable Charles B. Rangel
U.S. House of Representatives
2354 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct hereby approves your proposed trip to St. Maarten, N.A. scheduled for November 6 to 9, 2008 sponsored by the Carib News Foundation.

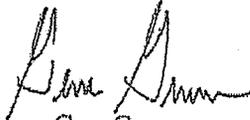
You must complete a Member Travel Disclosure Form and file it with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are required to attach a copy of this letter and the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form, including attachments. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$335 from a single source on Schedule VII of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act, gifts "of minimal value [currently \$335] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of \$335 received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

However, we would note that since this trip is scheduled to commence after the general election on November 4, 2008 and because officially-connected travel must be related to official duties, it may be questionable whether a Member who was not reelected in the general election should to accept an invitation for a trip that is fact-finding in nature. Arguably, as of that time, the official responsibilities that may justify the acceptance of travel expenses for such a purpose will have come to an end. This consideration generally will not limit the Committee's authority to approve travel of a departing Member to participate substantially in an officially-related event (for example, to give a speech). Please keep this guidance in mind, as you may need to reevaluate your ability to participate in the trip following the election.

The Honorable Charles B. Rangel
October 23, 2008
Page 2

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.


Gene Green
Acting Chairman

Sincerely,


Doc Hastings
Ranking Republican Member

GG/DE:pgp

EXHIBIT 2

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative Charles Rangel
Review #: 09-6333; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-2222
Date: May 28, 2009
Location: 163 West 125th St.
New York, NY 10027
Time: 2:15pm to 3:30 p.m. (approximately)
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: Representative Charles Rangel is a Member of the United States House of Representatives representing the Fifteenth District of New York. He was interviewed pursuant to Review 09-6333; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; and 09-2222. We requested an interview with Representative Rangel and he consented to an interview. Representative Rangel's counsel was present via telephone. Representative Rangel made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative Rangel was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. Representative Rangel signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. [attached]
2. Representative Rangel attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten. While attending the conference he stayed at a hotel on site. His room was an ordinary, single room. He arrived at the conference on Friday and left on Sunday. He did not attend the off-site reception.
3. He was invited to the conference because of his interest in the region and trade with the region. He was the original sponsor of Caribbean trade initiatives and officials in the Caribbean governments know of his interest in the region. The conference is a good place for Representative Rangel to build relationships with both local New York officials and officials in the Caribbean.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended.

4. While attending the conference, Representative Rangel did not eat separate from the conference sessions.
5. When asked who invited him to the conference, Representative Rangel replied that his chief of staff, George Dalley, invited him. Mr. Dalley has known the Rodneys longer than Representative Rangel has known them. The Rodneys deal with Mr. Dalley and Mr. Dalley does all the paperwork.
6. Representative Rangel met the Rodneys about 20 years ago during a trip to Jamaica. The Rodneys were part of the host/welcoming committee that greeted him. Afterwards, Representative Rangel learned that they published the CaribNews newspaper. Other than at his fundraisers, the only time Representative Rangel sees the Rodneys is at the conference or at a fundraiser for the University of the West Indies.
7. The relationship between the Rodneys and the conference is that the Rodneys are the conference.
8. Representative Rangel was shown the pre-travel forms for the 2008 trip. He identified his signature and remembered signing the forms.
9. Representative Rangel assumed his travel arrangements were made by Mr. Dalley as he was in charge of making the arrangements. When asked for more details, Representative Rangel said that there were no tickets or anything else. His driver knows where to go, the Member shows up, shows his identification at the counter and is asked where he is going and then he is on a plane and at his destination.
10. The Member was shown a copy of his tickets for the trip in question and stated that he had not seen them before. The airline would have given him something to find his seat but that was it. He did not know if he had an electronic ticket. Representative Rangel did remember having something that got him to the plane, but did not remember ever seeing plane tickets.
11. When asked about paperwork, the Member stated that there was no paperwork except for what went to the Standards Committee and that was just him signing documents.
12. The Member was shown the post-travel forms and identified his signature. Both the post and pre-travel form were filled out by Mr. Dalley. Mr. Dalley did not show him any documents supporting the amounts shown on the forms. Representative Rangel had no idea if the numbers on the forms were accurate. He did not know how much his meals cost or even what "transportation" means other than his flight. Representative Rangel

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stated that Mr. Dalley did not make up the numbers and assumed Mr. Dalley was fulfilling his obligation to the Standards Committee and to Representative Rangel.

13. Representative Rangel was not aware of the host government's participation in the conference. He knew that they provided protection for him, but other than travel from the airport to the hotel and back he did not use it. He was given a number to call if he wished a car and police escort, but did not utilize the number.
14. When asked: Other than host, did you know what St. Maarten provided to the conference? Representative Rangel stated he did not know, and asked how he would know and that he had no idea.
15. The Rodneys attend the conference as part of the CaribNews Foundation. The foundation was the conference. They put the program together and invited him.
16. Other than the conference, the Member has not participated in any other event or function conducted by the foundation. He was not aware of anything the foundation does other than the conference nor has he been involved in any other program sponsored by or planned by the foundation.
17. Representative Rangel did not remember any corporations identified as sponsors. He stated he knew the fact he did not remember was a problem, but he simply did not remember.
18. With the exception of Golden Krust, he did not remember any business people or sponsors identifying themselves as representatives of business.
19. Representative Rangel did not participate in the conference except where he was asked to speak. If his name was not on the agenda for a particular program then he was not there. He only went to one breakout panel because it was hosted by David Dinkins and Mr. Dinkins had attended the panel hosted by Representative Rangel. When he was not participating in the conference the Member walked around, went to town for a brief trip, did some reading, and spoke to Mr. Dinkins. He did not go to the beach or anywhere else.
20. The only people he recognized at the conference were other Members of Congress and people he knew from the district. He never recognized anyone from any corporation. He did not see them and they did not identify themselves as sponsors.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended.

21. Representative Rangel would not know Mr. Michael Flannigan if his life depended on it. Neither did the Member recognize the names Marilyn Johnson, Ed Goldberg, Patrick Gaston or Albert Browne.
22. The Member did not know how the CaribNews Foundation put on the conference. It has never been an issue and he has never discussed the matter with the Rodneys. Representative Rangel did not know how they function.
23. Representative Rangel did not know the nature of the foundations 501(C)(3) status. He just knew they were charitable. He specifically did not know if they were a private foundation or a public charity. Neither was he aware of any limitations on travel paid by a private foundation. The only thing Representative Rangel knew was that if the Standards Committee told him he could go, then he could go. He was not aware of any IRS restrictions on private foundations, but assumed the Standards Committee would know.
24. The event identified in the agenda as a closed door meeting with Members of Congress was a meeting between the Members and foreigners and those concerned with the politics of America. The meeting was for off the record issues. Representative Rangel was adamant that corporate sponsors of the conference did not attend the meeting. There was no one who was in a room with him that identified themselves as corporate sponsors, especially in the closed door session as it would have been offensive for corporations to have been present.
25. When the rules changed in 2007, the Member did not get any training on the changes, but he assumed that Mr. Dalley knew what he was doing. He assumed that Mr. Dalley did everything right especially in light of the Member's reluctance to attend the conference. Mr. Dalley gave the Member reason to believe he was having many conversations with the Standards Committee and that Mr. Dalley was following the rules.
26. Representative Rangel has not spoken to the Rodneys since the conference. He has spoken to Representative Carolyn Kilpatrick, but only about the fact she was contacted by OCE. He has not spoken to any other member of the Congressional Black Caucus. The Member has not even spoken to Mr. Dalley because Mr. Dalley said that it might not be a good idea given the fact that both men were going to be interviewed by OCE. Representative Rangel presumes that Mr. Dalley feels that he did not provide the Representative with the kind of service he should have.

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

27. Representative Rangel then stated that he wished he had paid more attention when the OCE was being formed and that when this is over he will take a good look at the process. He stated that he was informing us as public servants, that if a newspaper reporter can do this, reputations can be damaged. The mere fact that this can get to stage two meant that he owed Congress and this process to make sure it is as fair as the people who sold it said it was.

I prepared this Memorandum of Interview on May 28, 2009 after interviewing Representative Charles Rangel on May 27, 2009. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with Representative Rangel on May 27, 2009.

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

Exhibit 3

TRANSCRIPT OF AUDIO FILE:

11-7 AM SESSION - FIRST 30 MIN

Thank you for working with Accentance for your transcription needs. The text below represents a professional transcriptionist's understanding of the words spoken. No guarantee of complete accuracy is expressed or implied, particularly regarding spellings of names and other unfamiliar or hard-to-hear words and phrases. "(ph)" or "(sp?)" indicate phonetics or best guesses. To verify important quotes, we recommend listening to the corresponding audio. Timestamps throughout the transcript facilitate locating the desired quote, using software such as Windows Media or QuickTime players.

BEGIN TRANSCRIPT:

KARL RODNEY: ...Mike Flanigan how through the year his division has been supportive of the Mission and the Conference. And so we want to say thanks to Citi. You'll be hearing from Mike later but it's a great team to have working and great partners. We have Pfizer and a big supporter of (inaudible) aspect. Karen Boykin-Towns is not here, she has been able to in the past eight years and there's a death in her family and so she's not here to begin. Through the years work had done in the Caribbean circle in the United States and then a special touch to our work that can be done not only on the delivery of health care but overall awareness. [0:01:00.4]

And over from Macy's and its very fine team has been innovative in outreach to various locations we've gone to, finding new vendors, developing new contacts and really helping to make the conference a success by engagement of our local participants. So Ed and Brenda are tremendous supporters and we're so delighted that they're here with us.

IBM and Marilyn Johnson, Marilyn is Vice-President of Market Development, responsible for strategic marketing for Black, Asian and Hispanic, Native American and Women. Marilyn's a dynamic partner and you'll be hearing from Marilyn also. You should be alerted that between Brenda and Marilyn tomorrow is Women's sessions is going to be something to talk about. [0:02:09.5]

Marie Long is here from ATT but ATT has supported the Conference all 13 years. We started with them. They made sure that the Vision, the Mission of the Conference is supported through the many years.

We have with us Mr. Pat Gaston. Mr. Gaston is the President of Verizon Foundation, one of the largest private foundations in the United States. And Mr. Gaston has made his mark in moving that foundation to be a force in education in the United States. We are delighted he is here to be with us and to introduce a wonderful program that has been very effective in the United States (inaudible) to see if there is potential here in the Caribbean. So, Patrick, we are delighted you are here and we look forward to your presentation. [0:03:14.9]

Preferred Health and a wonderful group of doctors, Dr. Valdez, Dr. Carl Kenel-Pierre, Dr. Kernisant, a group of doctors who have a network of centers through the United States but they also see and want to have that expanded to the Caribbean and also to bring a new kind of emphasis with respect to health tourism to the Caribbean and so they're here today also.

Dale Morris from American. American has been a partner with us for several years. Dale is expected to come in later on today but we want to acknowledge American and want to say "thanks".

Lloyd Williams from the Harlem Chamber of Commerce enough of his members are around and Lloyd has been supportive of this Conference from its inception and the Chamber has always been here with us and so we want to say "thanks" to Lloyd. [0:04:20.9]

Medgar Evers College under the dynamic leadership of President Edison O. Jackson has not only brought to the Caribbean a new vision of education, a new initiative with respect to men and empowerment but also the team that you see moving around they're from Medgar through the instrumentality of President Jackson working with us to document the Conference. It will be available too for a widespread distribution afterwards. So Medgar has been a true partner in making this Conference and this Mission work. [0:05:07.0]

Turner Construction, we have had a working relationship with Rev. Hilton Smith, he has attended several conferences and now he's with his colleague John Pierce to be a partner in the Mission of the Conference.

And, of course, the government of St. Maarten's under the dynamic leadership of leader Sarah Westcott-Williams and her dynamic team. We have always been working with - we always work with the leader and her dynamic group and we are just delighted at her own creative vision, her own determination and dynamic way of dealing with the Mission and dealing with the situation at hand. And we met with Commissioner Westcott-Williams and her team and she had a vision to suggest the theme of the Conference, time of transition, stretching for change and building the land session. So it was with that kind of background that we're here and to St. Maarten's we say, "Thank you very, very much." [0:06:31.4]

We have so many great partners that we shall hear from throughout the morning. We have through the Conventional Black Caucus and their members a set of agendas that have been accomplished, policies that have been achieved and programs that have been enhanced. And through the years they have been very effective when they have attended the Conferences our own (inaudible).

It was here at St. Maarten's six years ago that a group of hoteliers and vendors approached the members of our caucus to suggest that the Caribbean had been treated unfairly with respect to the duty-free allowance going into the United States. And it was within six months that it was changed through the effort of the members of the Black Caucus and so the Caribbean is better. And the Caribbean has benefited through millions of dollars of duty-free items that you know come through to the Caribbean.

It was also here in St. Maarten's that the issue of tax exemption for conferences held in the Caribbean was again brought to the attention of the members of the Congressional Black Caucus and again that was achieved within a year. [0:08:08.2]

And so we've seen that kind of work constantly throw it's really the conference. So we can try to serve real achievement in fact in this room there is a couple that came from Denver to Barbados for their first Conference and they have built a region wide distribution for ice cream and fast food. And this has grown considerably.

It was also through the Conference that a small technology company with the value of \$2 million came, got a contract and that company in two years became a \$12 million company. And we've seen that kind of connection throughout the Conference. We could point to Barbados where technology was enhanced with respect to ATT work with the local Barbadian telecommunication company. St. Croix the fiber optics center, Grenada an oil refinery, all coming up with the expertise of the Conference to the (inaudible). [0:09:30.7]

And so the Mission is there to continue, the Mission is there to enhance, the Mission is there for us to make it work particularly now when we see the change has come and we can now come together to pad the agenda and to look forward to this kind of strategy for change. And so we want to welcome you. We promise that our sessions are going to be interesting. We have some of the best speakers that you can find on the various topics. We're going to see more when we get together the support we can bring to each other. The support we can provide with respect to the met work and certainly when we go back in the Caribbean we can really see results. We can come together as a people. You've been a great Conference. Thanks so much for being here. God bless. [0:10:28.4]

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you Mr. Rodney and we also thank you Mrs. Rodney as well. With interest we're here on the wave of the man who campaigned about change and on this transition to change and also strategic alliances. And we hope that will happen for you while you're here. Mr. Vide mentioned all of the sponsors who were with us and the partners who helped to make this happen and we're going to hear from three of them at this time at this quarter, Michael Flanigan from Citibank (Citi) and Ed Goldberg, Senior Vice-President at Macy's and Community for the Relations, and Patrick Gaston the President of the Verizon Foundation. In that order we will receive them this morning as they come, please. (clapping) [0:11:15.6]

MICHAEL FLANIGAN: Good morning.

ALL: Good morning.

MICHAEL FLANIGAN: It's really a pleasure to be here. As you heard before, Eric is on his way so I have the great privilege and honor of putting in for Eric. But first just wanted to say "thank you" and again welcome to the 13th Annual Caribbean Business Conference. This year was significant for Citi. For the first time we are the lead sponsor of this premier event. But I would be remiss in not thanking the organizers and our hosts here at St. Maarten so to the

government, to the Commissioner Sarah Westcott-Williams, Governor Franklin Richards and Commissioner Roy Marlin and all the other elected officials here in St. Maarten and elected Congress members, appointed officials from the United States it's a pleasure to be here with you. [0:12:15.6]

We also of course have to thank the Rodney's as being 13 years in ensuring that this vision is carried out and delivered all across the Caribbean and I don't call to talk about some successes but I think one of the most important success that I think that I've experienced in coming to the Conference for the last six or seven years is just reunited with his great family. It's all about developing our communities. About we're all about the same thing, I think. We're all on the same page. We're all about the same agenda. And we're all about making sure that we absolutely care about each other, yourself but we care about the broader community. So it's always a pleasure to be here. I get re-energized every time I come. And so it's - I look forward to it - so it's one conference that I will never miss.

This Conference is an important gallery that makes a tangible contribution to dialog on the issues of important to communities. From recognizing the untapped wealth for underserved communities to building property alliances so that together we can build healthy, robust, organic economies. Today and tomorrow and even into Sunday are very important to that conversation at least to building a winning strategy to succeed in these turbulent economic times. I trust that we will all take full advantage of the great minds and the leaders that we are privileged to spend time with. I know my Citi bank black (inaudible) are ready. Thank you so much for having us here at Conference. (clapping) [0:13:58.2]

ED GOLDBERG: Good morning everyone.

ALL: Good morning.

ED GOLDBERG: As Mike said it's really a pleasure to be back with family today. We look forward to this Conference very year. Obviously, we hope that there will be many, many more over the years to come. I learned something from David Dinkins several years ago when you have a whole list of dignitaries in the house, the best thing to say is, "Present, protocol observed." So, Mr. Mayor, thank you for those kind words. (laughter)

Now a week and a half ago, Macy's celebrated its 150th anniversary. (clapping) When you think about anniversaries of companies today to believe that somebody could be around in the retail industry in particular for 150 years is quite an amazing feat. I'm sure that when R. H. Macy opened his store in lower Manhattan on 14th Street on October 28, 1858, he did not have the vision that the company some day; number one would last for 150 years; or that it would employ 225,000 people; or that they would do \$27 billion a year in business; or for being in 46 of our 50 states; and also the opportunity of having a business in 64 or 65 major markets in the United States. [0:15:30.9]

But today I'm hear to talk more about the Caribbean contract. The fact that we have been supportive of Carolyn Fay and this particular venture for the number of years but more importantly the fact that we come here to look for that spark that will ignite an opportunity to

find that next Martha Stewart; that next design; or that new product that's going to sell in our stores such as we've done with the Rwandan peace baskets and products like that. And I think it is really why our Mission is so important, it's not just a question of change, not just a question of transition but it's building those ties and looking for those opportunities. That I think will bring us closer together. [0:16:15.9]

There's no question that we all face difficult times but I believe that the Caribbean is our backdoor and the bottom line in opening for us for expansion. No, I don't think we can build 250,000 sq. ft. mall stores but Macy's has to learn in transition how do we conduct business in the Caribbean communities. And I think we're going to find that way and obviously this particular convention is one of those opportunities to do so.

You all know Brenda Scott, my wife, (laughter), Judy's back in the room sleeping so I can say that. But Brenda and I have been together for more than 20 years. We have obviously been very much involved in our communities where we do business and we still believe we have a long way to go. But our mission is being supported by a great Chairman, Terry Lundgren, and the people of Macy's, so obviously we look forward to developing these bridges and developing the relationships. And I hope that in the not too distant future, we will be talking about a Macy's store here in the Caribbean. So enjoy your convention. I hope I'll get a chance to talk to each and every one of you as the time goes by over the next couple of days. And again, thank you so much, Carolyn Fay for the great work that you do. (clapping) [0:17:32.9]

PATRICK GASTON: Good morning everyone.

ALL: Good morning.

PATRICK GASTON: Thank you, Karl, for the wonderful introduction. Thank you, Michael and Ed for these great remarks. I extend welcome from our CEO, Ivan Seidenberg, and our 225,000 employees, many of whom are from the Caribbean mason including me. I want to acknowledge my colleagues and members of the public sector, members of the community, and I also, I guess, want to respect present protocol. Okay, but I have to single out a couple people, right? So thank you to the leader of government Sarah Westcott-Williams for hosting us today and the great people of St. Maarten. It's a delight to be back here. This is my eighth time in St. Maarten and I may stay. (laughter) It's wonderful. I want to acknowledge Karl Rodney for his exceptional ability to bring people together to recognize the collaborations that are important for business development. He does so with the grace that I admire and it's the first time I've had the chance to be here with you, Karl, and it's an honor to be here and a privilege so thank you for inviting me. [0:19:06.0]

I want you all to recognize Rex Nettleford. I don't know if he's in the audience still. But Rex and I have known each other for about nine years when I first joined the Foundation of the University of West Indies Board of Directors. And one of the things that attracted me to the University in addition to Karl, of course, was that Rex was the kind of leader that reflected a lot of commitment and enthusiasm about education: something that I care deeply about. And over the years has provided me with his counsel and friendship and I thank you for that, Rex. (clapping)

now, the next mayor for the city of New York, Bill Thompson's father, who was the regional director for the NAACP who went on to be now retired. [0:24:54.4]

It would not have been 106 mayor of New York City of Percy's son, a former President of the New York City branch of the NAACP, Balford Calison (sp), Secretary of State and now the government of the state of New York has his first job at the NAACP. So I want us to learn history so we can have our brothers and sisters in (inaudible) and those who are coming to the shore of these United States to understand the kitchen of our connectiveness to (inaudible). How soon you could forget the history that those from the Caribbean have played to make America what she is today. [0:25:44.8]

And so I join with Karl and Fay every year I trek here because they joined with me in New York City trying to break the (inaudible) of the two communities because Rolly Johnson said this morning, Cook said this morning, Johnson Cook said this morning, "When we join hands together. when we come and talk about the multi national conference, we're global now, we can't think we just in Brooklyn, we just can't think we in the Bronx, we just can't think we in Manhattan and in Queens and Staten Island. We are all over this country. And when we saw the crowd of people, black and white, Jew and Gentile, Muslin, Asians, all across this country who came out for Obama. it is a change in America. And then we African-Americans and the Caribbean's have to absolutely solidify our tie. Because if America is to be what she was born to be, it would be that so on behalf of our new President Ben Judds who I'll promise will be here next year, 35-year-old Rhodes scholar, ingratiating young brother who is so excited where we are going. And my sisters in the Congressional Black Caucus and my brothers, we going to get it together. As our Congresswoman told us yesterday, "We're tired of talking about it. It's (audible) we are sick and tired of being the sick and tired." And so when we leave here, we will be better off because we came together to make new friendships, to re-energize and I would say to Karl and to Fay, our sincere gratitude to you for bringing us together as a family each year. Some of us even don't have enough time to sit. That's why Laura convinced me to come a day early. Even if I don't know what's happening with my 401K (laughter) I'm nervous, Mr. Comptroller man. I don't know about vacation but we thought it not right not to come here and be with our family. Thank you so much. [0:28:13.4] (clapping)

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: We thank you so, so much. He began his second term in January 2006 as the 42nd Comptroller of the City of New York. He's come from a distinguished parenthood, a famous judge and a mother as a public school teacher, but he has distinguished his own path. And he has become a wonderful Comptroller of New York City and he has responsibility for all the city's pension funds. He's just a good brother. He's here with us today, hope to be the next mayor of the city of New York. Let's put our hands together for William C. Thompson, Jr., the Comptroller of a great city of New York, New York. All right?

WILLIAM THOMPSON: Thank you Reverend for that very wonderful introduction and it's good to see you here as our Master, or Mistress of Ceremonies, this morning. And I go ahead and make a mistake. I should have had the Mayor open up for me because he always does it correctly. But to our leader of government, Commissioner Westcott-Williams, to the members of government here in St. Maarten, my colleagues in government all over the United States, friends, good morning.

ALL: Good morning.

WILLIAM THOMPSON: It is definitely a pleasure to be back again even though following Hazel to the microphone is always an indubitable thing to do. [0:30:01.1]

END PART 1

TRANSCRIPT OF AUDIO FILE:

11-7AMSESSION - 30 THRU 75 MIN

Thank you for working with Accentance for your transcription needs. The text below represents a professional transcriptionist's understanding of the words spoken. No guarantee of complete accuracy is expressed or implied, particularly regarding spellings of names and other unfamiliar or hard-to-hear words and phrases. "(ph)" or "(sp?)" indicate phonetics or best guesses. To verify important quotes, we recommend listening to the corresponding audio. Timestamps throughout the transcript facilitate locating the desired quote, using software such as Windows Media or QuickTime players.

BEGIN TRANSCRIPT:

(Part 2 - beginning at 30:00 through 1:15)

WILLIAM C. THOMPSON, JR.: - It's good to be back again and let me first start out by thanking, and I always term them as I did last year and I have continued to do it over a period of time, termed them the "dynamic duo," Faye and Karl Rodney. [applause at 0:30:16.7] They happen to be, when it comes to vision - and that's exactly 13 years ago when putting this conference together, they had a vision. It is something that they have never taken a step back from. They continue to move forward, they continue to bring us together. And while we have the opportunity to meet, to have conferences in some wonderful places, just fabulous environments and that is the truth, but they work us, okay. Karl and Faye let us understand that we may meet in a wonderful environment, you walk outside and it's gorgeous, but we are here to accomplish things. [0:30:58.7]

Karl mentioned when we were here before, and I remember the discussions with the members of the Congressional Black Caucus and it wasn't just those who owned hotels, it was members of government who had indicated then that the (inaudible) \$200 dollar duty-free or the amount that you could bring in the country hadn't changed in decades, in years and years and years. And I remember that members of the Congressional Caucus, the Congressional Black Caucus led by Congressman Charlie Rangel, the Chairman, and now he wasn't the chairman at that point, he went back to Washington and in a period of months the amount had doubled from \$200 to \$400 dollars. It was the right thing to do but you saw the power of this Congress. As I said, we might come together in wonderful places, but it is about business. It is about increasing the ties. It is about the business between the Caribbean and the United States and increasing those business opportunities, helping to raise the standard of living for many; helping to build businesses and institutions, that's what it is about. [0:32:09.5]

Last year, Karl had me down here and - no I'm sorry, last year after our conference I worked. I must admit, Karl had me as a luncheon speaker, we were outside, it was about 85 degrees and I was in a tie okay, I was in a suit and tie and it took me a couple of hours afterwards to dry out. But the one point that was made then was Karl looked at me, and those of you who know me in the

introduction as New York City's Controller, I'm a member, a trustee of four of our five pension boards, chief investment advisor to all five. Our total assets in knowing, it might have shrunk a little, but our total assets are about \$95 billion dollars right now. We are the fifth largest public pension fund in America. [applause at 0:33:02.4] At that point Karl looked at me and said, by the way how much of that is invested in the Caribbean basin? How much of that money is going to create, to build infrastructure, to help with tourism, healthcare and other things? And it was an impressive question and I went back and the answer was not much. Not much, so we started to go at that point down the path of looking at investment possibilities in the Caribbean basin; obviously a very promising area. [0:33:42.0]

To go back to quote just a couple of numbers as we would look at - now it has been a tumultuous year on Wall Street, at the same point, many of the investments, as we were termed that we have made in the emerging markets around the world, have outperformed developed markets. For instance, one year, three year, five year performance of emerging market equities has been on par or better than the United States private equity, the United States venture capital, Western European private equity and U.S. public markets. Clearly it makes sense for institutional investors to begin to move further into those waters of emerging markets. [applause at 0:34:25.8]

So we went back and started to engage, particularly we looked at private equity, and the way we invest usually isn't directly it is in private equity funds, so we began and our private equity consultant, we asked them to take an initial look at the Caribbean basin for how much initially should we be investing. And the number that they came back with was \$80 million dollars. That would be our first step into investment in the Caribbean basin through a variety of investment vehicles. We started to move down that path and unless I am wrong, and if I am I will be short a few people or I will lose a few people in my investment side, but I believe that yesterday back in the office, back in front of one of our pension boards, we approved the first application of \$30 million dollars to be invested in the Caribbean basin. [applause at 0:35:25.8] And, we are going to continue to move forward through other investment vehicles to invest and commit, or really to commit and invest. the additional \$50 million dollars and then we will take a step back and look for other possibilities. [0:35:46.8]

So I just wanted those to know that conversation, that investment of money, and as I pointed out it will range in everything from real estate to infrastructure, industries ranging from healthcare, financial services, energy, telecom, tourism and other areas, but that started last year at this conference. [applause at 0:36:09.8] So to those who say, "Jeeze you are going to St. Maarten? Have a wonderful time. I know you are going to spend a lot of time on the beach," Karl and Faye make sure that we are working hard and that we are getting things done. [0:36:28.6]

And at this conference, while it is great to see friends and colleagues and some people I don't get to see for a year, we are here working and we are here making sure that we increase and bring closer those ties that we have had in the past and that we are helping to grow business, that we are helping to improve quality of life both here in the Caribbean and back in the United States.

So again, it is a pleasure and let me say again to Karl and Faye, thank you so much for the leadership that you have shown. We look forward to your continued leadership for years to come. Thank you so much. [applause at 0:37:04.2]

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REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you for working hard while you are here and even back at home. Thank you. It is so good to be together. We do get to sit down and talk to each other here. We try to get on each other's calendars in the City and we never do, but here we are able to make and transact business and it's wonderful.

As a point of personal privilege, it is not everyday that you have a city world leader that you know very well is a man of faith first of all, who reads the Holy Scripture at your wedding. It's not everyday that you go into (inaudible) flavor at a press conference that he has called and then he comes to the hospital to see the birth of your first child. It's not everyday that you have someone who is there at the blessing of that child who's named after him. It's not everyday that you have someone who hosts Whitehouse Fellows when they run, coming to New York City and gives them the key to New York. And, it's not everyday that we have the first African American Mayor of the City of New York in our midst. We are in the midst of history here. He was the 106th Mayor for the City, but he is our number one Mayor, the Honorable Mayor David Dinkins, Professor in the Practice of Public Affairs at Columbia University [applause at 0:38:16.8], and our wonderful, wonderful leader who's shoulders we stand on and for who we cheer for in honor this day. Let's hear it for the Honorable David Dinkins. [0:38:28.4]

DAVID DINKINS: Well one thing is clear, if I had had the good fortune of having the Reverend introduce me more often I might have gotten re-elected. [laughter at 0:38:48.4] I am delighted to be here, but I want to clear one thing up from the start. I think it should be acknowledged that Faye Rodney has been such a wonderful person and to think that she permits her husband to come along with her the way he does [laughter at 0:39:10.1]. It's really nice. She even lets him think he's in charge every now and then. [laughter at 0:39:16.6] But they are a dynamic duo.

I am delighted to be here with you, I truly am and each year, I guess I've been here ten out of - at least ten times I think - and each year I try to get myself on the committee that will go and do the, make the decisions on where we are going to go next year so I can visit the islands but they have not yet let me come. But each year though, I insist that the tennis facilities be adequate, but I am not playing this time. But I want you to know my friends (inaudible) that they were out on the court this morning and I will get a report and it better be good. [laughter at 0:40:14.3]

I am delighted to be here with you, I truly am and we are taking a role and those folks who are not here now, but are still having breakfast or are out on the beach, we've got their names: [laughter at 0:40:33.0] and we are going to chastise them severely. But it really is a wonderful, wonderful opportunity to come together with friends. For me personally it gives me an opportunity to say thank you to so many of you who helped me become the 106th Mayor of New York. [0:40:51.2]

We say often that everybody stands on somebody's shoulders, and by that we mean Malcolm X and Martin Luther King and (inaudible) and Harriett Tubman and Rosa Parks and for me, for me personally, it also means Percy Ellis Sutton. [applause at 0:41:13.0] who ran in 1977 with such class and distinction that nobody laughed at me when I dared try in 1989. And we were successful and it is a broad leap. [0:41:33.6]

Certainly, I was simply privileged to be the stand bearer, but it was many of you here gathered, many of you who worked with me, worked with me in our administration like Laura and Hazel and so many of you, and I know that we wouldn't have gotten nothing done had it not been for the man called the Rumble Genius by the New York Times, Bill Lynch. [0:42:02.3]

Bill used to say, good government is good politics. And you will note on his literature, he's got a consulting firm now and a whole heap of clients and is doing very, very well, you will note that he uses that slogan and it is certainly true. If you do that which is right in the first instance, it will inure to your benefit politically as well. [0:42:34.5]

So we didn't make judgments politically and then say well let's see how that will play out, we did it the other way around. We did what we thought was right and then it inured to our political benefit and I am so proud of so many of the people who helped us succeed as they go forth now. And I can't believe how young they were, some of them are still young even now and maybe it's because I am so old that it looks that way. But it really is an example of what can happen when good people come together and work hard. [0:43:11.7]

And I know that President-elect Obama is going to do well because he is going to surround himself with bright, intelligent, trustworthy people on whom he can rely on. Because no executive, no executive, not even Ed Goldberg, can get it done alone. You've got to have help and you've got to have people to whom you can delegate and you have to have people who will make a triage. You can't look at the thousands upon thousands of things that will come before you. They have to do a triage and bring to you those that they deem to be of significance for you to make a judgment, and then you will make a decision among them. [0:44:00.6]

I am confident that President-elect Obama will make the correct decision once he knows all the options, but he can't know all of the options if they aren't brought to him in the first instance. And the reason that I have such faith that he will be surrounded by good, bright people is the kind of campaign he ran. [applause at 0:44:26.1] He ran one hell of a campaign so it sort of suggests that he will do as well as our President. That is not easily done, particularly in these difficult times, but when Alan Greenspan said, "By God I didn't know it was this bad," or, never (inaudible) how the hell he doesn't know, how am I supposed to know." So it is difficult for sure, but we are going to survive this. They say that that doesn't kill you makes you stronger, so we are going to survive this. [0:45:01.0]

Ed Goldberg made reference to my custom, my habit that I got from African diplomats of instead of acknowledging everyone in the audience, which I would want to do and my staff would go absolutely crazy because I would acknowledge all of my friends and they - I did that once and my wife was standing right next to me and I acknowledged everybody in the house except her. Hell of a ride home [laughter at 0:45:29.6]. But, the African diplomats have this custom, they say, "Usual protocols observed." So, President Jackson that means that you have been acknowledged. [laughter at 0:45:45.2] See, that's the way they do it because if you do otherwise, if I go on to describe how Hazel is my assistant and how - let me tell you, you don't want Hazel against you ever, but by God if she is on your side, nothing can stop you; you will win. [applause at 0:46:12.5] And we are all going to turn out as she leaves us in celebration of NAACP's on it's anniversary it is going to be a

monster, it's going to be a gas to be right in New York and I hope everyone here comes. It is really going to be something. [0:46:34.5]

I say to audiences, the media in particular has been asking me, "Well what's it like for President-elect Obama the first African American President of the United States?" And their theory is they are asking me because I was the first black Mayor and I try to explain that there is a world of difference. While I got to be the head of a city of 8 million plus people and that's terrific, and we have more separate ethnic identities than the United Nations has member nations, so we are truly a magnificent city, but Obama is not only the President of the United States, he is the leader of the free world. So you really can't make a comparison, you can't. Although, I am sure that he's got to feel wonderful because as he said as his grandmother wasn't there at the very end, but fortunately he got to see her, imagine how the family feels, his wife, his children, so I do understand that part and it is a hell of an accomplishment that he has done, but even he could not have done it without you. And he knows that and that is the beauty of it. [0:48:02.8]

I recognize that those of us who have been privileged to serve, it is a privilege and you have to see it that way and recognize it that way and do the best that you can under the circumstances, but never, ever believe that you got there alone, because that's just not true. I am almost amused, I say almost because I feel a little sorry for the distinguished Governor of Alaska, and it's coming out now how they are swallowing in house. I don't know whether you have seen the current press and how they talk about the poor lady and she is trying to defend herself and I almost, underline almost, feel sorry for her, but, she made it up there. [0:48:54.1]

So to my friend, Suzan, the Reverend Doctor Suzan Johnson-Cook, you all - many in this audience knows that she took a congregation of about 11 or 12 people, meeting at lunchtime down near City Hall, and built it into a congregation in excess of 1,000. She did that. [applause at 0:49:25.9] She is a very, very special, gifted woman. And I say that she is here with us at this 13th annual meeting, notwithstanding the loss of her dear brother, my friend, our friend, Charles, very recently. A young man who has gone to his reward and she is with us nonetheless and we appreciate it. [0:49:59.4]

Charles was quite a guy. He didn't like to be called Charlie incidentally; he was Charles. It's sort of like if somebody says they know Joe Hines who's name is Charles J. Hines and they'll say, "Oh, I know Charlie" and you know that they don't know him worth a damn because he is Joe Hines. [0:50:24.2]

So, to be here in the company of Carolyn Kilpatrick, the Representative in the Congress who takes care of our brother Charlie Rangel; that is special. That is special. You know one year we had something like 35 members of the Congressional Black Caucus here, I think it was 35, it was over 30 certainly. and that got the attention of a whole lot of people. It got the attention I'm confident of some sponsors who said well next year maybe we ought to up ours a bit and they did and that's the genius of Faye that she let's Karl come along with her here. [laughter at 0:51:15.3]

Its true that international black heads of states have prevailed in nations with majority black populations, but never before, never, ever in the history of the United States has the Chief of State, the Commander in Chief been other than a white male. And many of us grew up in the days of Jim Crow and dozens of African Americans were still being lynched; 24 in 1933 when I was six years

old. They were stilly lynching folks and as a matter of fact I can recall some years later as we started to make (we meaning blacks) started to make some progress, we were told things like, "You Negroes (that's what they called us then) you Negroes shouldn't be so pushy, they only lynched five last year." We were supposed to be grateful that so few of us had died. [0:52:15.2]

Then there came World War II; segregation, as we went off to fight and die for our country. And when I got out of the Marine Corps in 1945-1946 and some of my classmates had shrapnel in their bodies, and we could not go to the movies downtown in Washington, D.C., the Nation's Capital, couldn't shop on F Street is you had to try something on, and this is after the war; the war that ended all wars. So we have come a long way since those days, but things are not perfect even now because I maintain that we live in a racist society that is the legacy of slavery, but that does not mean that we have not made great progress. Imagine a black man, President of the United States of America. [applause at 0:53:20.2]

I can remember when there were certain jobs you couldn't even apply for, couldn't even think about it. We got the right to vote by the 15th Amendment in 1870. but we weren't able to exercise that right to vote until 1965 when the Voting Rights Act was passed. As a matter of fact, if you think back on some of the games made during the Civil Rights Days by Dr. King and so many really heroic women and men. And I have to tell you I ain't to sure that I could have followed John Lewis getting beaten down into the ground and he kept coming back, I'm not sure that I could have done that. [0:54:18.7]

I'm not sure that I could have done what the Tuskegee Airmen did. You know about the Tuskegee Airmen, everybody does. they said blacks weren't intelligent enough to learn to fly. And then B.O. Davis who in four years at West Point nobody every spoke to him. they didn't talk to him, and he came through all of that and won the fight for black men to learn to fly and then they said, well you can't go into combat because you will be cowards and turn in the face of the enemy. And then they won that battle and they did it so well that people like Roscoe Brown and Lee Archer and Percy Sutton and so many others. they fly in cover for bombers and never lost a single bomber. not one. [applause 0:55:19.1] So much so that the white bomber pilots would ask for them and I can remember, while I wasn't personally there. the black Marines who were trained in Camp Lejeune in North Carolina. white troops went to Parris Island in South Carolina and they thought that the black Marines were somehow not quite as good as the white Marines, but when the black Marines hit the beach carrying ammo for the guys that were pinned down and running out of bullets, they loved them to death. It's funny what need will do; it's funny. [0:56:16.1]

This election has at last put to rest, I think, any doubt that Americans as a whole oppose the failed economic and social policies of the Bush administration, with its record deficits and recession. Billy Thompson knows about that. Phil used to properly regulate financial industries that led to the loss of retirement pensions and the sub-prime mortgage crisis, outsourcing of American jobs, increased unemployment and refusal to work toward a living wage for job offers, failure to support programs that curtail practices that harm the environment and damage or destroy natural resources, failure to end the war in Iraq and approve any meaningful plan to withdraw troops. [0:57:12.3]

Speaking of Iraq, don't it just get you right here when the Bush people lied to Colin Powell and sent him to the United Nations to tell those lies. and didn't it make you feel good when he came out

for Obama recently; I mean you know [applause at 0:57:38.5] by God, and he is a guy, you know, he is one of our heroes. He truly is, he truly is. [0:57:52.2]

The American people have spoken across the party lines, social classes and racial divide in support of programs to provide affordable and accessible healthcare, to stimulate economic growth and provide a living wage for American workers, to transform energy consumption and reduce American dependence on foreign oil to improve schools by ending No Child Left Behind, and end the war in Iraq and bring the troops home. Some of you will recall that when the troops came home after Vietnam, our country treated them terribly. They spit at them. They didn't ask to go, but they were treated awful. Korea was a little different. And as Charlie Rangle says, he hasn't seen a bad day since. Charlie was pinned down in a foxhole and came out of there with a Purple Heart and Bronze Star and he hasn't seen a bad day since. [0:58:57.2]

But, even though Americans, whether Democrats, Republicans or Independents, have responded overwhelmingly in support of measure that the new President may be compromised I say, at the outset by the actions of the outgoing administration. Keep in mind that he doesn't take office until January 20th and I'm counting on our friends in the Congress to do whatever they can to see to it that he doesn't start off in a whole, because that is what can happen. It is possible; I hope it doesn't happen. [0:59:41.9]

Earlier this year in February of 2008 I participated in a panel at a meeting of the Independent Newspapers International Advisory Board in Cape Town, South Africa on the topic "End of the Bush Era in the United States." And our discussion, neither prophetic or profound, merely reflected the ground swell for change that has this week resulted in one of the most historic moments in American history: the landslide election of the first African American to the Presidency of the United States of America. [1:00:20.7]

The majority of the American public, irrespective of political party affiliation welcomes the end of the Bush administration, by whatever measure we choose to evaluate its impact, domestic and global, this has been a failed presidency that has brought the United States to the brink of disaster and some say beyond the brink. We could recite the long list of offenses perpetrated or orchestrated by that administration that have passed in the name of foreign policy and global economy. [1:00:57.0]

While the United States has now emerged from unprecedented two-year campaigns, some like the New York Times editorial staff have cautioned that we should pay close attention to the efforts underway to perpetrate the policies of the past seven years with Bush. And at the risk of putting a damper on the celebration of Tuesday's victory, I do feel compelled to call attention to a few of the concerns that lay immediately ahead. [1:01:31.7]

True the Congress has a Democratic majority and the political capital of the sitting administration has been all but spent by the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the worst economy since the Great Depression, but even with the lowest approval rating of any president in the history of our country, he has pressed on to do everything possible within his remaining days to compromise the new president, who will take office with the greatest mandate from the people in a century. [1:02:05.6]

He has abused the political process more than any of his predecessors, undermining the power of Congress through the use of Signing Statements. Over the last seven years he has issued hundreds of these documents, devices showing us that he had no intention of obeying laws, that he has claimed impinged on the constitutional powers of the Chief Executive. Examples of such Signing Statements are those that authorize domestic surveillance without warrants, torture of prisoners in violation of the Geneva Convention, and firing U.S. Attorneys for political reasons. [1:02:50.5]

Others include a host of executive actions designed to impede congressional programs to expand health insurance and prevent further pollution of the environment. The disastrous Bush Lame Duck Budget proposal announced at his last State of the Union Address contained provisions for permanent tax cuts for the wealthy and the highest level of military spending since World War II and reductions in spending for medical research, environmental protection and education. [1:03:26.9]

President Obama will have to contend with this and a series of other eleventh hour measures. We are confident that Congress will reach across the aisle to combat the resultant stranglehold from President Obama's ability and move forward our country. We have along way to go in repairing the damage done over the past seven years. And although we deserve to relish the moment of victory, we do understand that we have more battles to fight and miles to go before we sleep. [1:04:00.1]

We should congratulate those other political leaders, some of whom are with us here today in St. Maarten, for their election and reelection victories as well. [applause at 1:04:11.2] And as one of these, the Dean of the New York City Delegation of Democrats, my brother Charlie Rangle. And this is a quote from my brother. Charlie says, "The world we look at is a world of many colors, many cultures, many faiths and what we as Americans have to offer is our experience in creating a diverse society as we show the world all of the diversity that is the strength of America. We reflect our values and present an example to the world. With our nation growing international involvement there could be no better time to attract the best and most diverse (inaudible) to represent the American people in every corner of the globe." so says Charlie Rangle. [1:05:05.3]

When we break for lunch we will hear the distinguished Governor of my home state of New York, the Honorable David A. Paterson. He will talk about the importance of building upon the partnerships necessary to translate the watershed victory of democracy in the United States into lasting change. I can't resist remind us that the governor's father, Basil Paterson, once won 61 out of 62 counties in New York State in a Democratic Primary for Lieutenant Governor. And then he joined the of (inaudible) of Goldberg. He was a former United States Secretary of Labor, former United States Supreme Court Justice, former United States United Nations Ambassador, the lousiest damn candidate you ever saw. So Basil did not win, but he would have become the first black Lieutenant Governor of New York State and eyes on the first black governor. So imagine, as I sat in the front row at the state committee meeting and Basil placed David's name in nomination for Lieutenant Governor. I had tears in my eyes. It had come full circle and now that same David is Governor of the State of New York and you will hear from him later. [applause at 1:06:41.3]

Later this afternoon we will meet to share our thoughts and plans for sharing working solutions to education. There are challenges is business and political leaders will be to craft strategies for keeping the doors of the international education open to our future leaders. The world will be a

dimmer place if we let the lamp of knowledge go out for a generation of our young people. It is within our power to turn up the flame and keep it burning bright, and in the words of President-elect Barack Obama, "Yes we can." [applause at 1:07:24.8]

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you Mr. Mayor, and thank you for looking so wonderful. He's dapper, Amen! Doesn't he look good? [laughter and applause at 1:07:42.4] And Barack Obama stands on your shoulders because you took the blows that shows what a man of faith could do and we thank you for representing us well. [1:07:52.3]

We also are joined by many a (inaudible) joints throughout this conference by many elected officials and some are here this morning; elected officials from the State of New York. You will hear later from the Honorable David Paterson, you heard from our City Controller Honorable William C. Thompson, Jr., Honorable Adolfo Carrion, Jr., President of the Borough of the Bronx; Honorable Nick Perry the Assemblyman for New York State, The Honorable Ruth Hassle-Thompson, State Senator New York State, the Honorable Keith Wright is with us this morning, Assemblyman for the New York State the Honorable Inez Dickens, Council Whip, Member of the New York City Council, and Honorable Dr. Kendall Stewart, Member of the New York City Council. Can we applaud for all of the elected officials from the State of New York? [applause at 1:08:34.3]

And then members of Congress who will be joining us throughout, some of whom you heard last night and today, the Honorable Donald Payne, the Chair of the Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, the Honorable Bennie Thompson, Chair of Homeland Security, Honorable Donna Christensen, the Honorable Chair of the Subcommittee on National Resources, Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee and now we are also going to hear from one of our Presidents of the Congressional Black Caucus, the Honorable Carolyn Cheeks-Kilpatrick. We are going to the federal level y'all [applause at 1:09:09.6] who is our President, Madam President and will be working with Mr. President would you please come and let us receive her this morning for what a wonderful job you have done and you have served with distinction as well and we celebrate and salute you this morning. Can we applaud the other members of the Congress who are with us? [applause at 1:09:29.1]

REP. CAROLYN CHEEKS-KILPATRICK: Giving honor to God who is the head of my life, present protocol being established [laughter at 1:09:46.3], but I've got to say a couple even given that. To Faye and Karl, its really thoroughly been said but thank you from the bottom of all of our hearts. We could not do this without you. Thank you very, very much. [applause 1:10:00.4] We could (inaudible) every week in our Washington offices, but that's how we keep up with the Caribbean if not for the newspaper, there would be no association that we could actually see and know what is going on and how we (inaudible) so thank you very much from the bottom of our heart. Thank you very much. [applause at 1:10:18.6] Commissioner Wescot-Williams as well as all the commissioners over here. St. Maarten, one more time. thank you for hosting us one more time. we love you, thank you very much. [1:10:29.4]

Our key ingredients for the Congressional Black Caucus where I Chair 43 members, we come from 21 states. we present over 40 million Americans: [applause at 1:10:40.8] five full Committee Chairs. 17 Subcommittee Chairs and others like the Majority Whip and Jim Clyburne from South

Carolina and others who help to control the Congress. We have the first African doctor in the house, a member of our Caucus who chairs our health branches and very instrumental in us being here, why don't you welcome my sister. Dr. Congresswoman Donna Christensen. [applause 1:11:11.7] Thank you, we love you.

It was mentioned earlier that, and I'm going to say who else is here, you heard from Dr. Payne and I know if he is here in this room you will hear from him again. you did last night. who chairs our Western Hemisphere Committee. Bennie Thompson who is here and I think he came through last night, he chairs our Homeland Security Committee also will be here. Sheila Jackson Lee from Houston, Texas and I know many of you know her, she is en route and will be here just shortly. Our number uno Congressman, second only to John Conyers in seniority, from the great state of New York, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. our big brother Charlie Rangle will be here this afternoon. [applause at 1:11:55.3]

And what you probably don't know is the federal budget is \$3 trillion dollars. Charlie's committee handles \$2 trillion of that for Medicare, Medicaid, for veterans programs; his committee is the committee that produces the revenue, \$2 trillion of it, giving it out in what we call entitlements to those programs. I served on Appropriations where the committee spends the money, and I like that too. We spend a million and Charlie generates it and gives it all by formula to the entire committee and our committee handles the appropriations in sending it out. [1:12:33.0]

Together we make up the Congressional Black Caucus and it was said earlier, many more members will be coming and will have come over the years, but I just wanted to say a point of personal privilege, this last six months, the last two months and the last two weeks, members of the Congressional Black Caucus have been crisscrossing America for our now President, Senator Barack Obama. [applause at 1:13:00.1] Even as we had our own elections [applause 1:13:02.4] Tuesday we were all on the ballot as well but (inaudible) just thinking as it relates to it's is major, but most of us went to many states all over this country. [1:13:12.4]

You see 18 of our members represent less than 50% of the African Americans; three of our members represent less than 15% African Americans, the most that any of us represent is a 62% African American so we represent all of America, Asians, Africans, Latinos, Europeans, Native Americans, you name it and we are called the conscious of the Congress and we really are that you know. [1:13:38.5]

God built us from a certain kind of way and we got some of this stuff in us that you do, you cross ethnic lines and it makes us stand up for righteousness, speak up on injustices and when we see something wrong you have to hear it because, of course, we are the conscious of the Congress. So in the spirit of (inaudible) is that Congresswoman Christensen talks about healthcare it's real. They have more because we have less. [1:14:03.2]

We hope and we know that with President Obama yes we had some difficult times in the Mayor laid them out well. And to the sponsors by the way, all of you, we couldn't do this, be with you, help Karl if you weren't here with us so we say thank you very much, you are so important. To all of the sponsors, thank you very much. [applause at 1:14:23.9]

So as we move to these next four years, two months, 32 days. - talk about the short period between November 5th and August 20th, [sic] President Bush is still the President. Our Constitution says that if there is unrest or malice or whatever, the sitting President can hold off and not let happen the January 20th date. There isn't many people that know about that, so we don't want any - we were kind of scared about November 4th when we won. We wanted everybody to be prayerful, be (inaudible) and have fun and all that, don't burn [1:15:00.5]

END PART 2

TRANSCRIPT OF AUDIO FILE:

11-7AMSESSION - LAST 20 MIN

Thank you for working with Accentance for your transcription needs. The text below represents a professional transcriptionist's understanding of the words spoken. No guarantee of complete accuracy is expressed or implied, particularly regarding spellings of names and other unfamiliar or hard-to-hear words and phrases. "(ph)" or "(sp?)" indicate phonetics or best guesses. To verify important quotes, we recommend listening to the corresponding audio. Timestamps throughout the transcript facilitate locating the desired quote, using software such as Windows Media or QuickTime players.

BEGIN PART 3:

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON COOK: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Thank you for looking so wonderful. He's dapper. Amen. Doesn't he look good? (clapping). Barack stands on your shoulders because you took the blows and showed what a man of faith could do and we thank you for representing us well.

We also are joined by many and will be joined throughout this conference by many elected officials. Some are here this morning; elected officials from the State of New York. You will hear later from the Honorable David Patterson. You've heard from our city controller, William C. Thompson, Jr., Honorable Adolpho Carrion, Jr., President of the Burroughs of the Bronx. Honorable Nick Hardy, the assemblyman from New York State, the Honorable Ruth Hassell Thompson, State Senator of New York State, the Honorable Keith Wright is with us this morning, assemblyman from New York State, the Honorable Inez Dickens, council whip member of the New York City Council, and Honorable Dr. Kendall Stuart, member of the New York City Council. Can we applaud for all of the elected officials of the State of New York? (clapping).

Members of Congress who will be joining us throughout. Some of whom you have heard from them last night and today, the Honorable Donald Payne, Chair of Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, the Honorable Bennie Thompson, Chair of Homeland Security, Honorable Donna Christensen, the Honorable Chair of Subcommittee on National Resources, Honorable Sheila Jackson-Lee, and now we hope to also hear from one of our presidents of the Congressional Black Caucus, the Honorable Carolyn Cheeks-Kilpatrick. We're going to the federal level you all; who is our (inaudible) president. We're only working with Mr. President. Will you please come and let us receive her this morning for what a wonderful job you have done and you have served with distinction as well, and we celebrate and salute you this morning. Can we applaud the other members of Congress (inaudible) (clapping).

REP. CAROLYN CHEEKS-KILPATRICK: Giving honor to God who's the head of my life, present protocol being established, but I've got to say in comfort even given that. To Fay and Karl, really (inaudible) really from the bottom of all of our hearts. I cannot be this without you. Thank

you very much. We could (inaudible) ever week in our Washington offices and that's how we keep up with the Caribbean. If not for the newspaper, there would be no association that we could actually see and know what's going on and how we plug in. So thank you very much from the bottom of my heart. Thank you very much.

Commissioner Wescott-Williams, as well as all commissioner's who are here, St. Maarten, one more time. Thanks for hosting us. We love you. Thank you very much.

I bring you greetings from the Congressional Black Caucus, where I chair 43 members. We come from 21 states. We represent over 40 million Americans, 5 full mini chairs, 17 subcommittee chairs, and others like the majority whip and Jim Clyburn from South Carolina, and others who helped to control the Congress. We have the first African doctor in the house, a member of our caucus, who chairs our health brain trust and very instrumental in being here. As being here, won't you welcome my sister back, your Congresswoman Donna Christensen? Thank you, Donna. We love you.

It was mentioned earlier that, I'm going to say who else is here, you heard from Donald Payne, and I know if he's hear in this room, you will hear from him again. You did last night. He chairs our Western Hemisphere Committee. Bennie Thompson, who's here, and I think he came through last night, he chairs our Homeland Security Committee. Also will be here, Sheila Jackson-Lee from Houston, Texas. I know many of you know her. En route, she will be here just shortly. Our number uno congressman, second only to John Conyers in seniority, from the great State of New York, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, our big brother, Charlie Rangel, will be here this afternoon.

What you probably don't know is that the federal budget is \$3 trillion dollars. Charlie's committee handles \$2 trillion of that for Medicare, Medicaid, for veteran's programs. His committee is the committee that produces the revenue. \$2 trillion of that given out in what we call, "entitlements" to those programs. I serve on appropriations, where the committee spends the money. I like that too. We spend a million. Charlie generates it and gives it out by formula to the entitlements. Our committee handles the appropriations and sends them out. Together we make up the Congressional Black Caucus.

As it was said earlier, many more members will be coming and have come over the years, but I just wanted to say, a point of personal privilege. This last 6 months, the last 2 months, and the last 2 weeks, Members of the Congressional Black Caucus have been criss-crossing America for our now president, Senator Barack Obama. Even as we had our own election, Tuesday, August 4th, we were all on the ballot as well, but ours wasn't as significant as relates to us as major, but most of us went to many states all over this country. You see, 18 of our members represent less than 50% African-American. Three of our members represent less than 15% African-American. The most that any of us represent is 62% African-American. So we represent all of America: Asians, Africans, Latinos, Europeans, Native Americans. You name it.

We're called the Conscience of the Congress and we really are that. You know, God built us in a certain kind of way. We got some of this stuff in us, as you do with you. Across ethnic lines, it makes us stand up for righteousness, speak up on injustices, and when we see something wrong.

you have to hear it because, of course, we're the Conscience of the Congress. So the disparities that Donna, Congresswoman Christensen, talks about in health care, it's real. They have more because we have less. We hope and we know that with President Obama, yes we have some difficult times and the Mayor laid them out well. And to the sponsors by the way, all of you all. We couldn't do this, be with you, help Karl if you weren't here with us. We say, "thank you very much. You are so important". All the sponsors. Thank you very much.

So as we move through these next 4 years, 2 months, 32 days, talk about the short period between November 5th and August 20th. President Bush is still the president. Our constitution says that if there is unrest or malice or whatever, the sitting president can hold off and not let happen the 20th day. There are few people that know about that. So we don't want any, we were kind of scared about November 4th when we won. We wanted everybody to do prayer. There will be a tone-in and have fun, and all that. Don't burn nothing down. Don't burn up a car and all that because they're waiting. Some people are waiting. Some people are very angry. We are euphoric. God is euphoric and people across ethnic lines, you saw them. The multi-cultural facets of America happy because it was a perfect storm. Financial markets crashing. People losing jobs. Health care unaffordable. Our schools in shambles. Big bad America and we still are; it's just this 8 years we have a man in the White House who knew not Joseph. In his leadership of our country, he not only decimated America, but caused havoc around the world. I know you know that.

So we've got a lot of building to do. What Karl and Fay has done is to energize each of us so we take our rightful places. All of you and all of us together. I'm going to bring into this room 2 of my sisters who we lost over the last year. Congresswoman Stephanie Stubb-Jones. Cleveland, Ohio, will be right here. Right over here, smiling and said 'Let's do this'. I want you to give a shout-out for Stephanie. She's up in here right now. Congresswoman Juanita Milligram-McDonald from Los Angeles, also with the ancestors are up in here right now. Both chair people I might add. Congresswoman Stephanie Stubb-Jones (sp) of our Ethics Committee and Congresswoman Juanita (inaudible) McDonald of our House Administration Committee. Finally, all during this tenure, 2 years is what Congress is, this is the 110th congress. So many historical things have happened that I mentioned to you already, including electing our first African-American president. Then finally Julia Carson from Indianapolis, Indiana, also (inaudible) has been to this conference many many times.

So my brothers and sisters across racial, ethnic gender, geographic, biological, (inaudible) we have much work to do, but it can be done. Because I believe there is a higher power who's directing all of this. We just have to know it and believe it, and do it, and be centered in a higher power.

So as members of the Congressional Black Caucus, as we go back next week to address the financial crisis. You all have been hearing about this \$700 billion, every time I say it, we handle a trillion, our committee, \$700 billion is what we just gave out or given out as we speak. The good thing about that, they were trying to give it all out, \$300 billion of it is gone, but the good news, the new president, anything they put in force, he can pull it back. So we have an opportunity to do some real comprehensive stuff.

The housing market? No more foreclosures. Those same people who got the \$700 billion, they were the ones who caused 80%, 85% of the foreclosing. Do you all know that? Predatory lending.

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Loss of jobs. Shifting our jobs over seas. You see, when the financial people do their thing, (inaudible) a billion here and here. It's paper. It's two clicks of the mouse. They were selling bad paper then and they were making big money. My sister, Susan. Let's give Susan a hand. Essence Magazine. Love you girl. (inaudible). We have to be smarter and better as we go forward. Senator Barak Obama, and you may have heard about his prudent campaign. Most of us in this room a 1-1/2 or 2 years, we thought it couldn't done, because we lived with the same people who had to do it. But the perfect storm. Don't forget that. The perfect storm caused by humans. Greedy humans in many cases.

I do a lot of work in the Middle East; Egypt, as well as Lebanon. I do (inaudible) and they're great people, but this president castigated Arabs. In Michigan, where I come from, and John Conyers, we have the largest population of Arabs outside of the Middle East. They've been in our community for decades. They go to our schools. Our children know them. They help and help to build the community. Yes, there are a few bad ones who blew up some (inaudible). God took care of them. They're going to be taking care of. But just like we don't want everybody to measure African-American by a few who do bad things, there are good things in all people. I believe that as President Obama comes into fruition, a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, his job, and he really does believe this, is to bring the races of God's people together. Whether you know God as God, or Allah, or Jehovah, or what have you, that if you really believed in a higher power, let's get busy and rebuild the world.

So, my brothers and sisters, we got a lot of work to do and you do as we go back to New York. Keep the (inaudible) operating. Keep your will strong and knowing that, as president takes his oath and pray that nothing happens between November 5th and January 20th. He can call marshall law. He can go around the country and lock up heathens and Christians, which isn't going to happen. Lock up anybody who might be subversive or such. Create an environment so that January 20th may not ever happen. That's the nightmare. Now snap back. Wake up. He won. It's going to be all right. Let's build a new America again. Let's make sure that our children can have adequate education because it's no longer Michigan against Indiana or Ohio. Michigan against China. It's US against the world and we can build those partnerships the way we do with Faye and Karl, and all of us who have been working for all of these years.

Thirteen is a significant number in the Bible. Thirteen is a number that renews us, gets us ready for the next state of our development. So as we meet here in beautiful St. Maarten, let us rededicate ourselves to a higher power to each other, to knowing that we can do anything but fail. God bless you. (clapping).

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON COOK: Now that's a sister who's got it going on. Thank you so, so much, Congresswoman. Madam President of the Congressional Black Caucus. We can see why. Amen. We are looking forward to great things ahead and you have us as the wind beneath your wings. All of you Congressional Black Caucus members, we are with you so much. Let the church say, "Amen".

We just want to share with you before we present our next speaker. This evening, our host country is going to present us with a fantastic affair. It's going to be offsite and we hope you won't miss it. Transportation is going to be coordinated and we are going to ask that you meet in the lobby at 6:15

tonight. The transportation will be coordinated by our local government. It's a casual event. It's a beach site affair tonight and we're asking all conference attendees to gather at 6:15 sharp in the lobby for departure. So that's our night affair tonight and we will repeat that announcement throughout the day. If you will just please make note of that as we go forward.

We've heard from the city level. We have heard from the federal government. You know, we are so excited about our first African-American president and many of us also wanted a woman in and it was not a woman's time. It was time for Barak Obama, but in this country, it is a woman's time. As the commissioner who is the leader of government for St. Maarten: Come on somebody. It is Commissioner Sarah Westcot-Williams, our host. She has been gracious. She is elegant. She is eloquent and we are excited about being received by her today. Commissioner Sarah Westcot-Williams. (clapping)

COMMISSONER SARAH WESTCOT-WILLIAMS: Thank you reverends and a very good morning. There's another way to deal with the selfish (sp) protocol and that is by saying, "Welcome friends to St. Maartens". I can say this notwithstanding the many luminaries in our midst because it is truly a welcome to old friends and new acquaintances.

This conference, at this time, on this island, would not have been possible if it was not for the resoluteness and conviction of Mr. and Mrs. Rodney. It was 6 years ago that many of you were here on St. Maarten for the conference as well. It is with a lot of confidence that last year, I threw out the idea of why not again St. Maarten., has been at that time five years ago. This year, it is six years ago. It was only after throwing it up as we sat down to plan, I realized that this conference would have been held two days following the most important election in modern times of the United States of America. As we, Commissioner Malven (sp) and myself visited Karl and Fay in New York, I said to him, "Karl, as much as I want this conference on St. Maarten, I don't know if the timing is right." He said without being presumptuous about the outcome of the election, he said, "Oh no. I believe the timing is right". And with a glee in his eyes, I suspected that he was counting on a victory and a big one, and felt that St. Maarten would be a place where we could celebrate that victory.

This small island of ours, and I'm aware of the clock just in case I was to get any sign from the back, but this small island of ours, only 37 square miles and that is both sides of the island, tonight you probably would understand. You will get to know how we share the island, but I can tell you that St. Maarten is the smallest side of the two. Nevertheless, we accommodate close to two million tourists annually on this island. Approximately 1.3 million visit our island by cruise and the others come here to stay over with us, relax and enjoy our island. And yes it is so opportune and truly a region in transition.

Throughout this region, every island, every island nation, every country, is going through some sort of transition. For St. Maarten itself, we are going through a major constitutional transition. Moving from what others term as called an island-territory, a remnant of a colonial system, to that of country within the kingdom of the Netherlands. The French side, just last year, moved from a French municipality to what is called in their terms, "a collectivity". So yes, this region is truly in transition and change is all around us. This side is so important for the relationships between the

United States of America and the Caribbean region. I am again so thrilled to hear so many of you speak of kinship, relationships, and ancestry as you recognize this region for what it is.

Term water (sp)? Yes. Maybe, but definitely a part of the United States of America. However you take it or twist it. The Diaspora of the West Indies and the United States of America. It's big. It is great and we need to continue to recognize that forging those relationships strengthen it year after year through this conference call is extremely important. As if it wasn't enough to realize that we were going to start a conference two days after such an important election, just barely three weeks ago, St. Maarten was brushed by Hurricane Omar, a category 3 hurricane. So if you were around and you noticed that the scenery is not exactly what you expected of it, if you feel a little in the roads as you go from place to place, recognize that that is what had happened. But Karl decided the conference was going to go on and the conference will go on, Karl, right here in St. Maarten.

So tonight it is my pleasure to host you at another side of the island because you are here two days after the election, two days after a historic election, and yes, notwithstanding the turmoil and the challenges, President Barak Obama is going to face, the party too will continue and the party on St. Maarten will continue this evening on the other side of the island hosted by the Government of St. Maarten. I encourage you and those who are part of the latest workshop this afternoon, to do it well, right, and try to get out as soon as possible so that we can move from here in a timely fashion and the police escort will only be something to show you how proud we are of having all of you here. But we will get to the other side of the island nicely, on time. A region in transition. Thank you for being here at this time in your history and in our history.

I welcome all of you and it is wonderful to be able to open this conference in a time like this because it is for such a time that you are here and we are here, and it is such a time that President Barak Obama was chosen to lead the United States of America and, with that leadership, to be the leader of the free world. If, just if, approximately 40,000 more persons voted could have given him even more votes, he would have had those from right here on St. Maarten, the friendly island of the early (inaudible). So today, we too rejoice with you and we too are hopeful that the change that is coming will be a good one for all of us. We just hope that some of that invigoration and renewed energy that we all will get from this conference will serve you well, when you go back and will serve us well as we continue to build our island nations from strength to strength and with God, all things are possible. Have we not seen that on November 4, 2008. What a wonderful way to celebrate and, Karl, what a wonderful thing to happen (inaudible) St. Maarten and deciding the conference welcomes the 13th Annual Multi-National Caribbean Business Conference. Thank you. Welcome. Enjoy it and may God continue to bless you richly. Thank you.

The question was how casual can you be tonight? You be as casual as you feel comfortable on an island that is your host. So men, absolutely no jacket and ties. I would not recommend that, but be as casual as you've been comfortable. Thank you.

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON COOK: All right. This is where we break. Hold on. We have (inaudible) ceremony. If you will just wait for us please. We're going to invite all of the sponsors and the elective officials to please join the Rodneys as our host today, here up front for our ribbon cutting ceremony. All of our sponsors, all of our elected officials that are present, please come and

join us up front. Those who are our speakers this morning, please right here in the front of the stage, and we will be lead. All rise. (singing)

END TRANSCRIPT

09-6333 0050

Exhibit 4

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative of Citi
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: March 17, 2009
Location: AkinGump NYC - 399 Park Ave, New York, NY
Time: approximately 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: The Representative of Citi was the Citi employee who managed their donation to the Thirteenth Annual Multinational Business Conference. The OCE requested an interview with the Representative of Citi and he consented. The Representative of Citi made the following statements in response to questioning:

1. The Representative of Citi was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. The Representative of Citi signed a written acknowledgement of the warning [attached],
2. The Representative of Citi was laid off from Citibank on December 15, 2008. At the time he was laid off he was Community Relations Officer for Brooklyn and Staten Island
3. The Representative of Citi joined Citi in December 2003. He had previously worked for Chase in a similar capacity. Chase sponsored previous Caribbean Multinational Business Conferences. The Representative of Citi attended the conference when he was at Chase. Chase was the first financial institution to act as a sponsor at the conference.
4. When he came to Citi, he was told to "lead the charge" in terms of Citi's participation in the conference. His superiors made the decision that Citi should participate.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

5. The Representative of Citi's direct supervisor was Eileen Aulden, New York State Director; she reported to Kathy Ebanks, Regional Director. Eric Eve, Senior Vice President for Community Relations headed the Representative of Citi's department. Mr. Eve made the decision to support the conference and decided on the dollar amount. The Representative of Citi was in charge of managing Citi's participation.
6. Citi donated \$75,000 to support the conference. Citi was the only "senior" sponsor. The money was specifically for the conference. Citi did not put any specific restrictions on how the money could be used to support the conference. The check came from Citi's sponsorship budget and was either made out to the Carib News or the Carib News Foundation.
7. In previous years the amount Citi donated was less. In 2007 it was \$50,000.
8. Karl Rodney chose the location of the conference. Governments in the region made bids to host the conference.
9. The only person from the conference that the Representative of Citi dealt with was Rodney. The Representative of Citi met with Rodney on 5 occasions between May and November 2008. These meetings concerned the program at the conference and Citi's participation in it. These meetings were not about the amount of Citi's sponsorship or to negotiate that in any way. The Representative of Citi described this interaction as a "dialogue" with Rodney. Rodney was receptive to suggestions about the program.
10. At these meeting the Representative of Citi would tell Rodney how he would like to "position" Citi at the conference. Citi participated in the luncheon, with Eve as a keynote speaker, and in workshops that fit their business. The lunch topic was set by Rodney. The Representative of Citi then tried to "position" Eve in a complimentary way. The Representative of Citi recalls suggesting to Rodney that Citi could do a workshop on financial education.
11. Rodney did not present a written agenda for the conference before any of their 5 meetings. The first time the Representative of Citi saw a written agenda was a week or a week and a half before the conference began in early November. The Representative of Citi recalls seeing a draft agenda. He was shown the draft agenda submitted to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct [attached as Exhibit B] and said he saw some version of the draft agenda but not this specific one. He did recall seeing the panel entitled, "Creative Financial Solutions" on page 9 of Exhibit B. He said when he saw

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that panel he thought he could participate in the panel and talk about foreclosures. He “vetted” that topic internally at Citi and then proposed it to Rodney and Rodney agreed.

12. The Representative of Citi attended the dinner on Thursday night. He does not recall Congressman Payne speaking.
13. The Representative of Citi participated in the ribbon cutting with members of Congress, host government officials and major sponsors on the Friday morning of the conference. The Representative of Citi got sick on Friday and missed the evening event.
14. Eve did not have a sit-down meeting with the members of Congress in attendance to the Representative of Citi’s knowledge.
15. The Representative of Citi did not have more than “cursory” conversations with the Members of Congress who attended. He saw all members that attended more than once. He saw most of them on Friday and had seen everyone by Saturday.
 - a. The Representative of Citi recalled Congressman Rangel was there. The Representative of Citi thought he first saw him on Friday and saw him on Saturday. The Representative of Citi thought he saw him at different events.
 - b. The Representative of Citi saw Congressman Payne on more than one occasion.
 - c. The Representative of Citi saw Representative Kilpatrick early on Friday. He does not recall her speaking.
 - d. The Representative of Citi saw Representative Thomson on Thursday; he saw him on more than one occasion.
16. 300 to 350 people typically attended the event. It was open to anyone.
17. The conference was billed as the Carib News conference. Rodney is the publisher and CEO of the Carib News. In May or June one would start seeing advertisements for the conference on the back page of the Carib News. The Representative of Citi thought Citi’s check went to the Carib News Foundation but did not know what the Foundation did other than the conference. The Representative of Citi thought the conference was “totally” financed by the sponsors. He did not know if Carib News put up any money for the conference.

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18. The Representative of Citi said Rodney saw the conference as an opportunity to position the Carib News as the "voice of the Caribbean" which is how the paper markets itself in New York.
19. Citi saw the conference as offering Citi three benefits: (1) it sent a message to their partners; (2) it was a business opportunity; and (3) it was good for Citi's image.
20. The members of Congress lent the meeting "clout."
21. Sponsors also bought ad space in the Carib News. This was not part of their sponsorship of the conference. Citi bought ad space in the Carib News.
22. The Representative of Citi also knows Rodney from the Board of the University of the West Indies. Both he and Rodney are members and participate in telephone meetings and, occasionally, in in-person meetings.

We certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with the Representative of Citi on March 17, 2009.

Leo J. Wise
Staff Director & Chief Counsel

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

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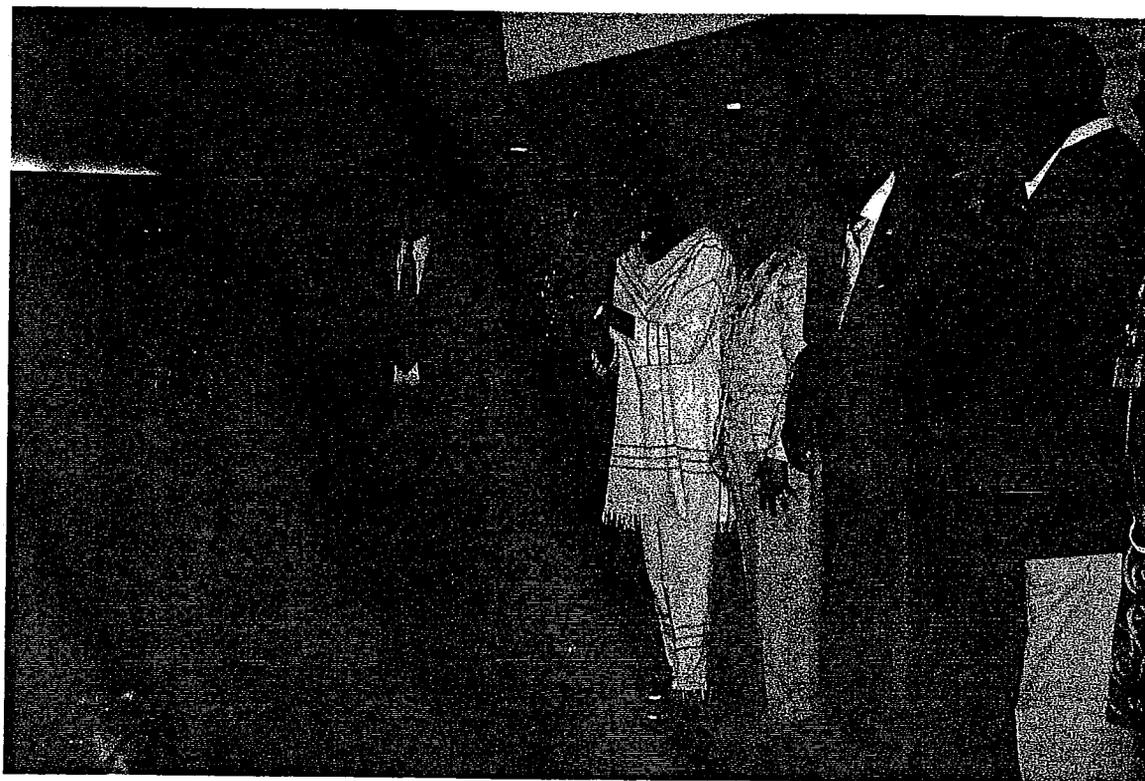
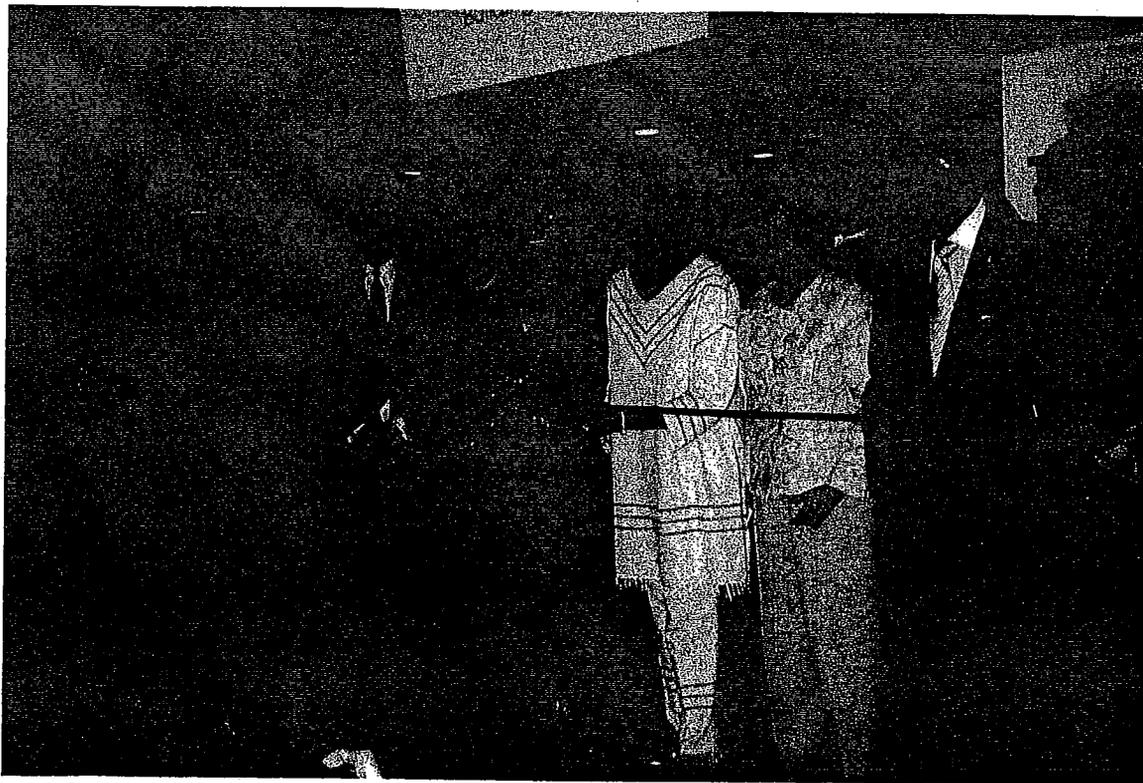
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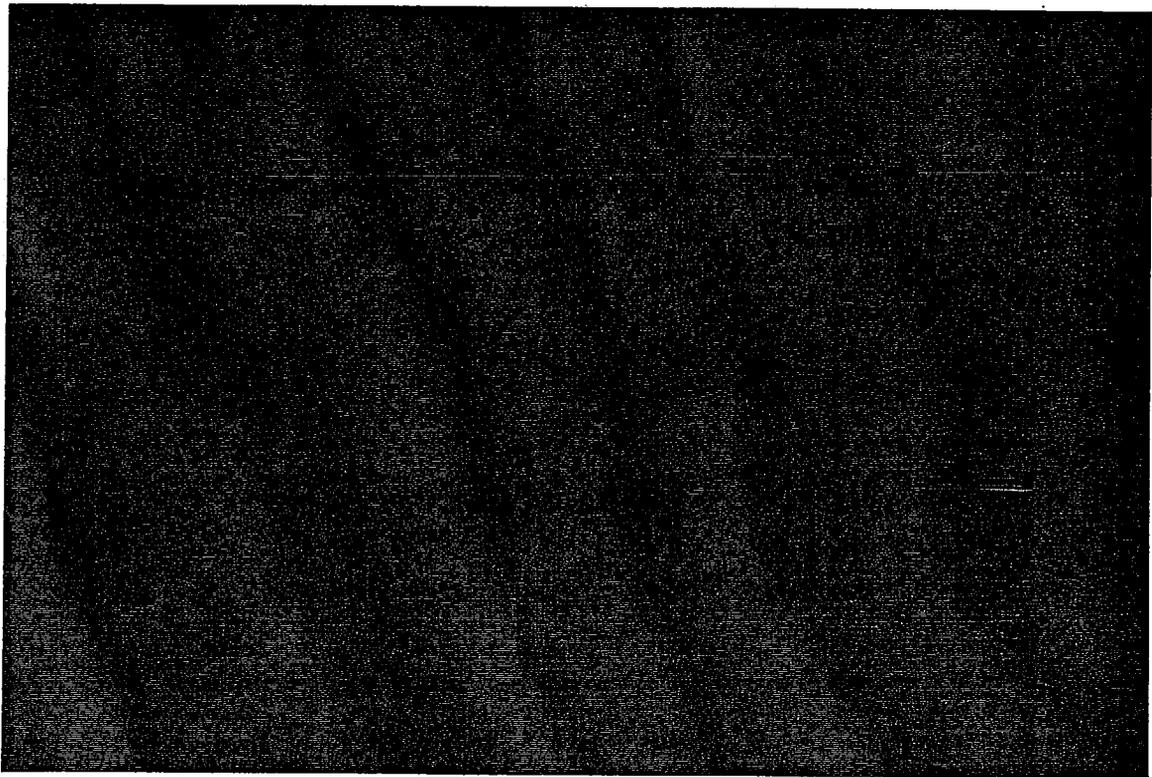
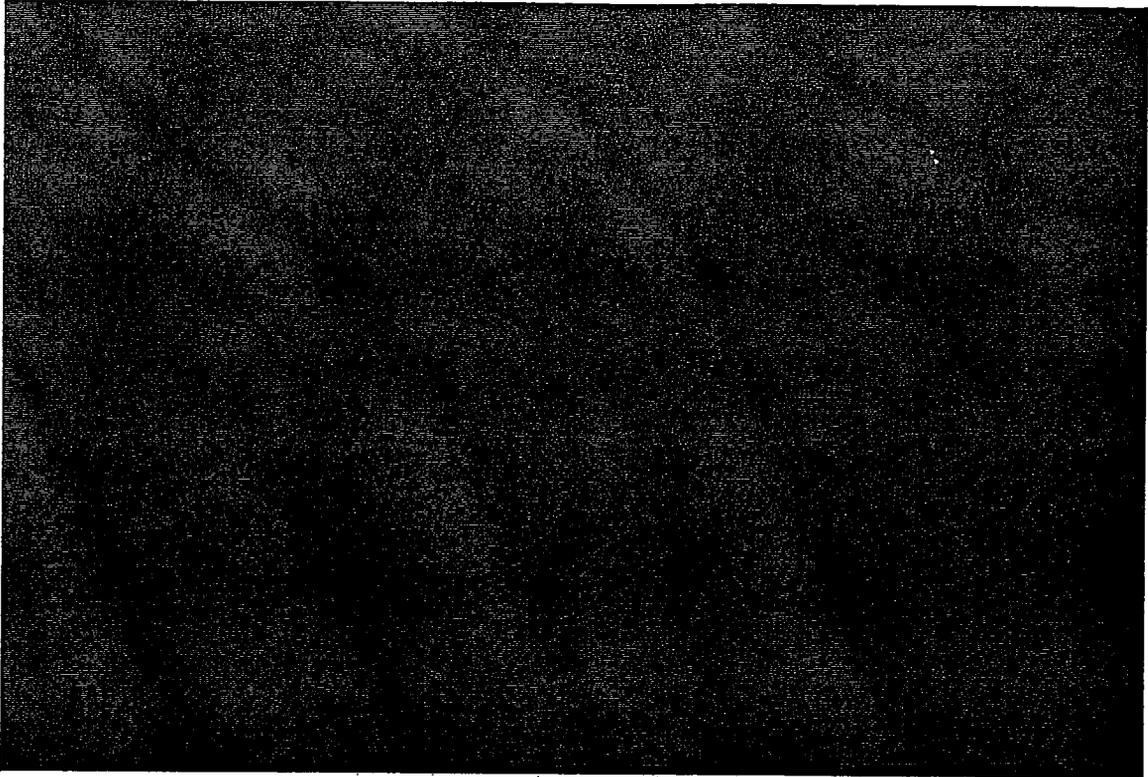
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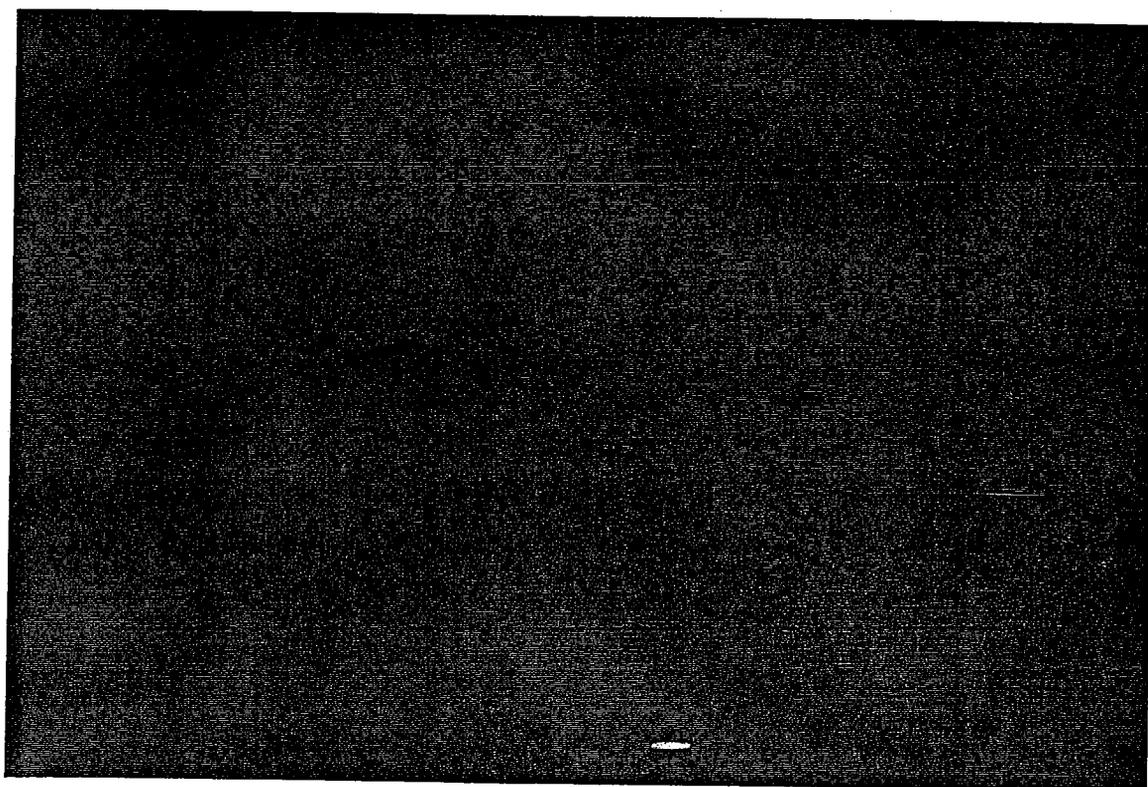
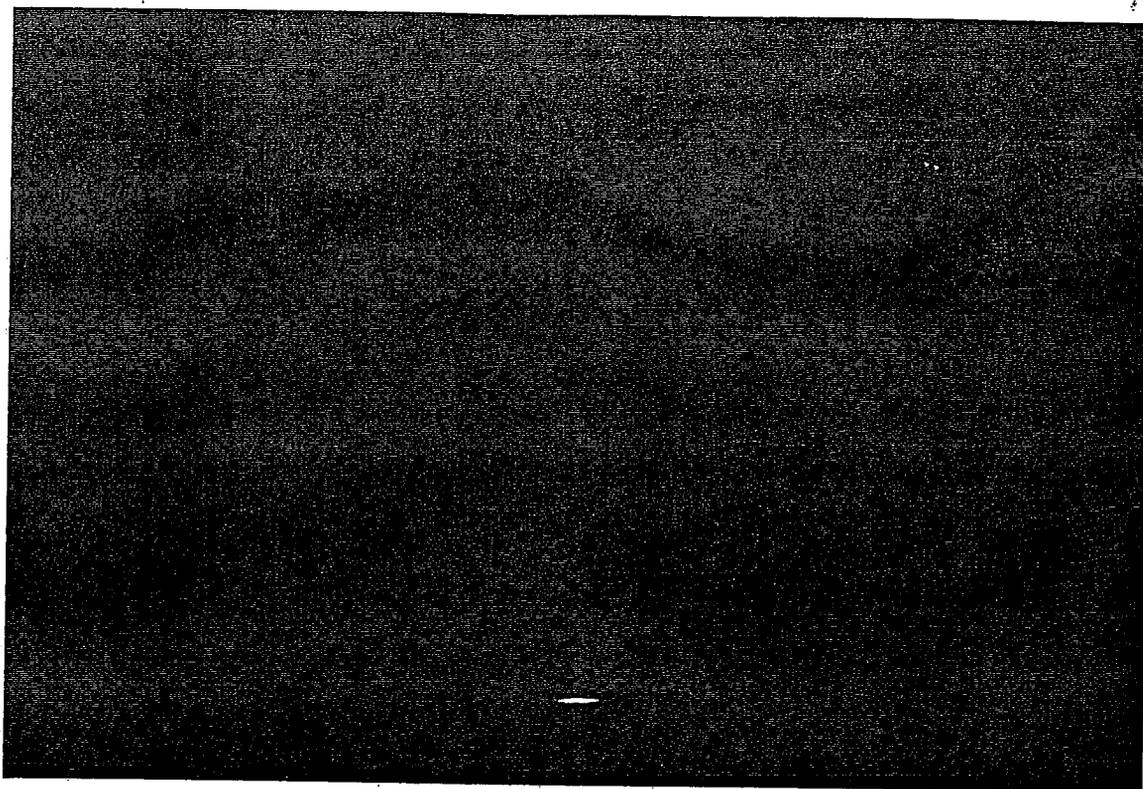
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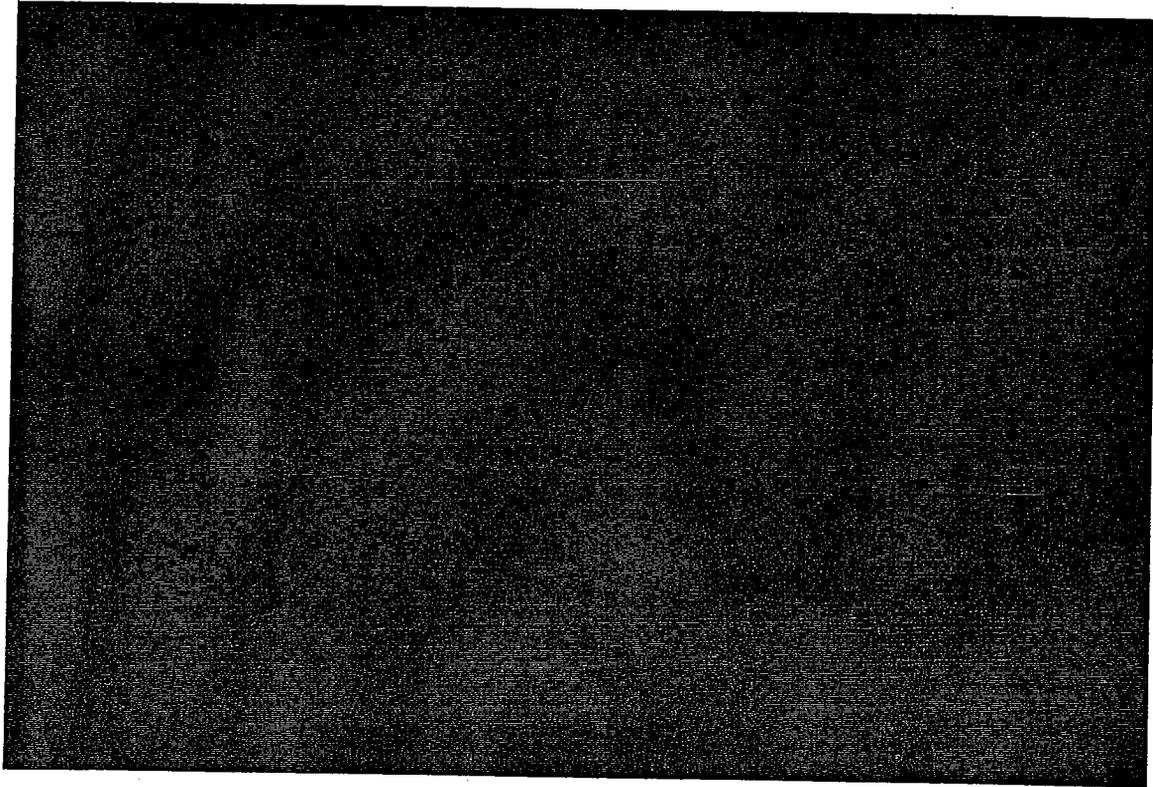
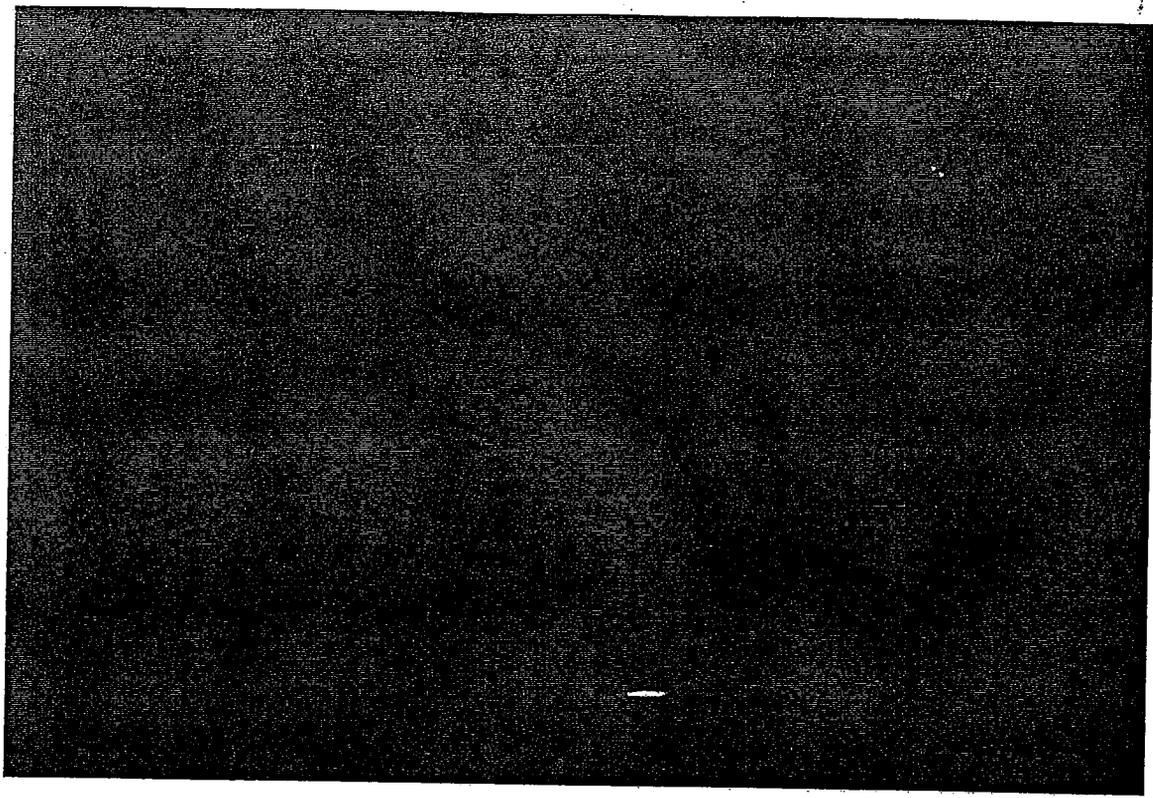
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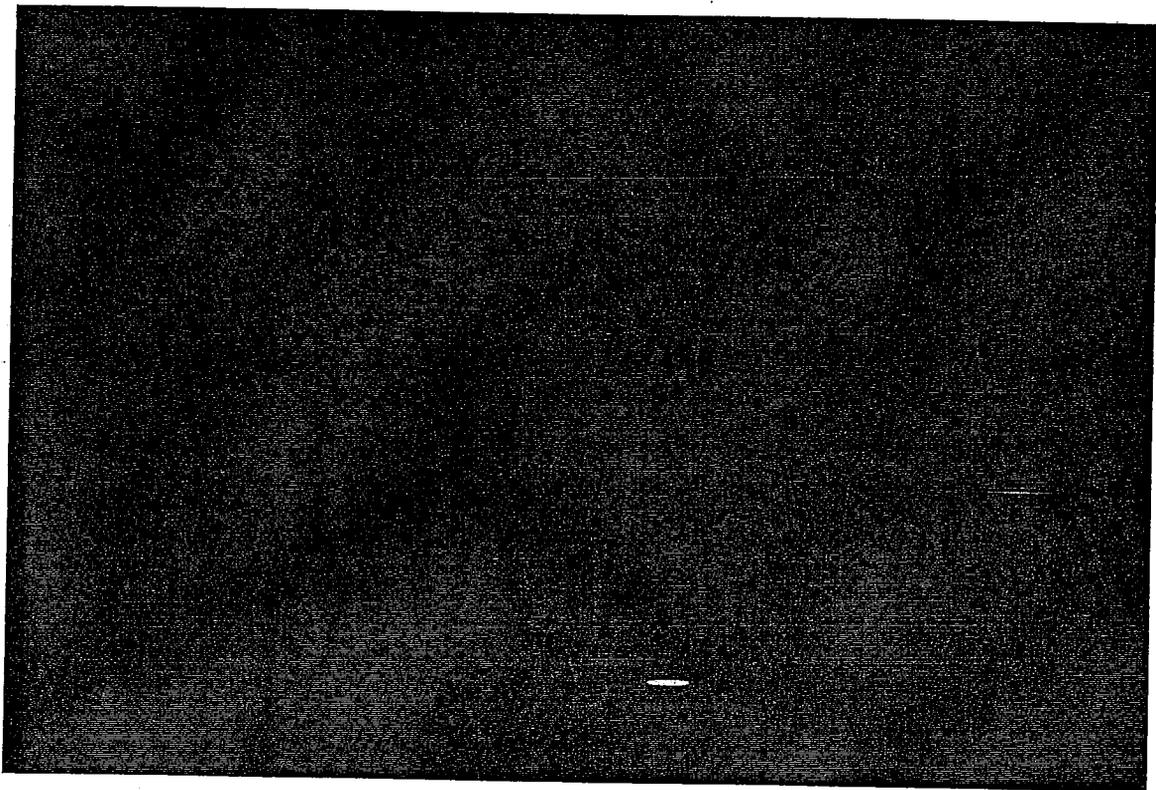
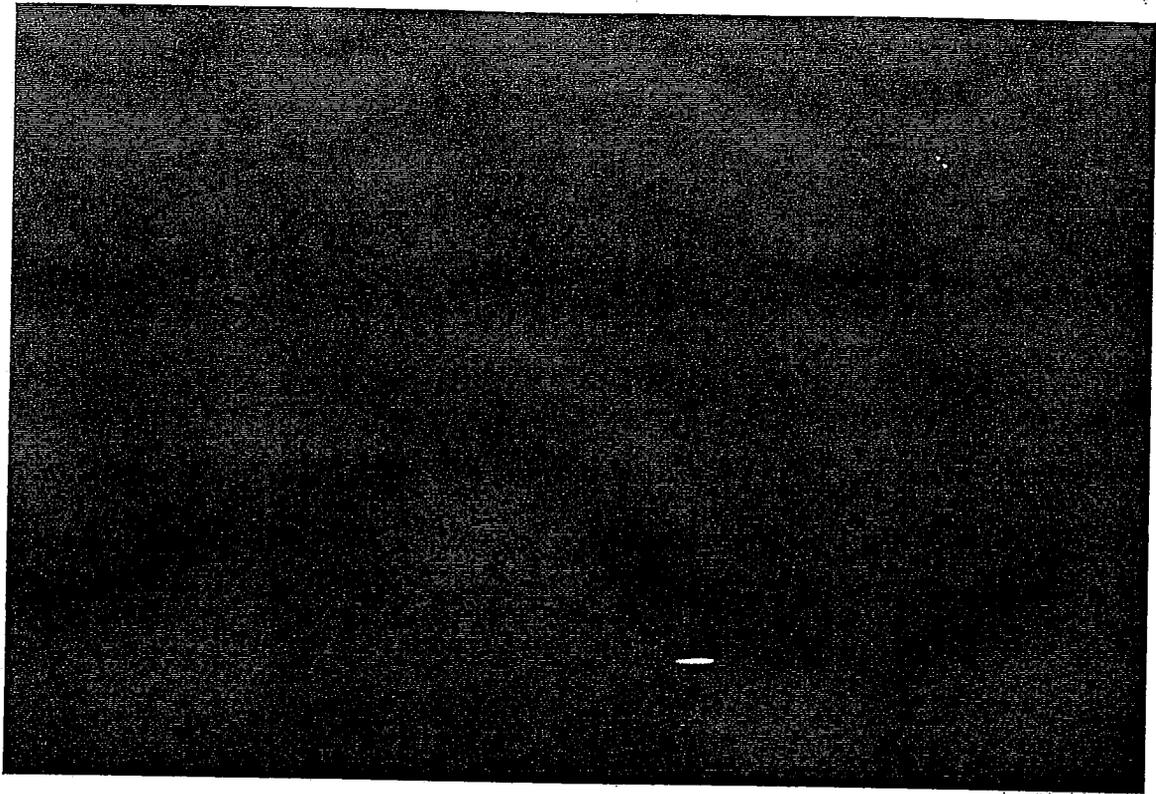
Exhibit 5

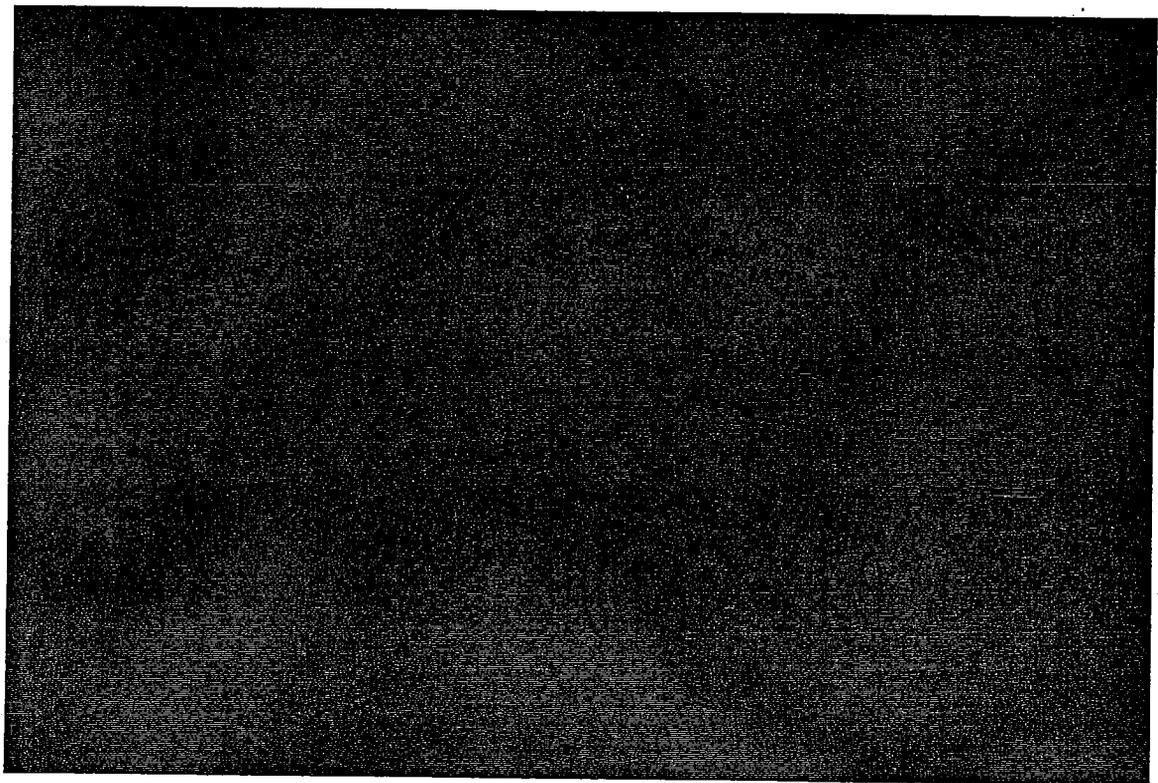
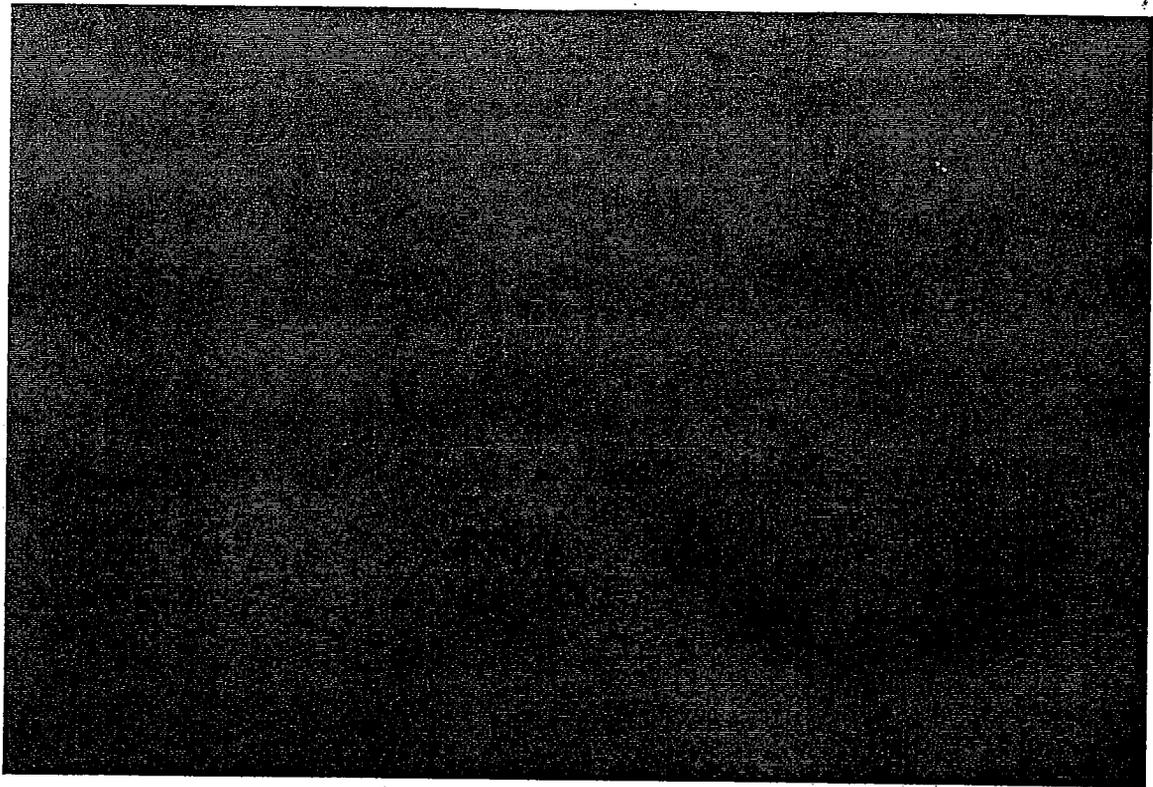


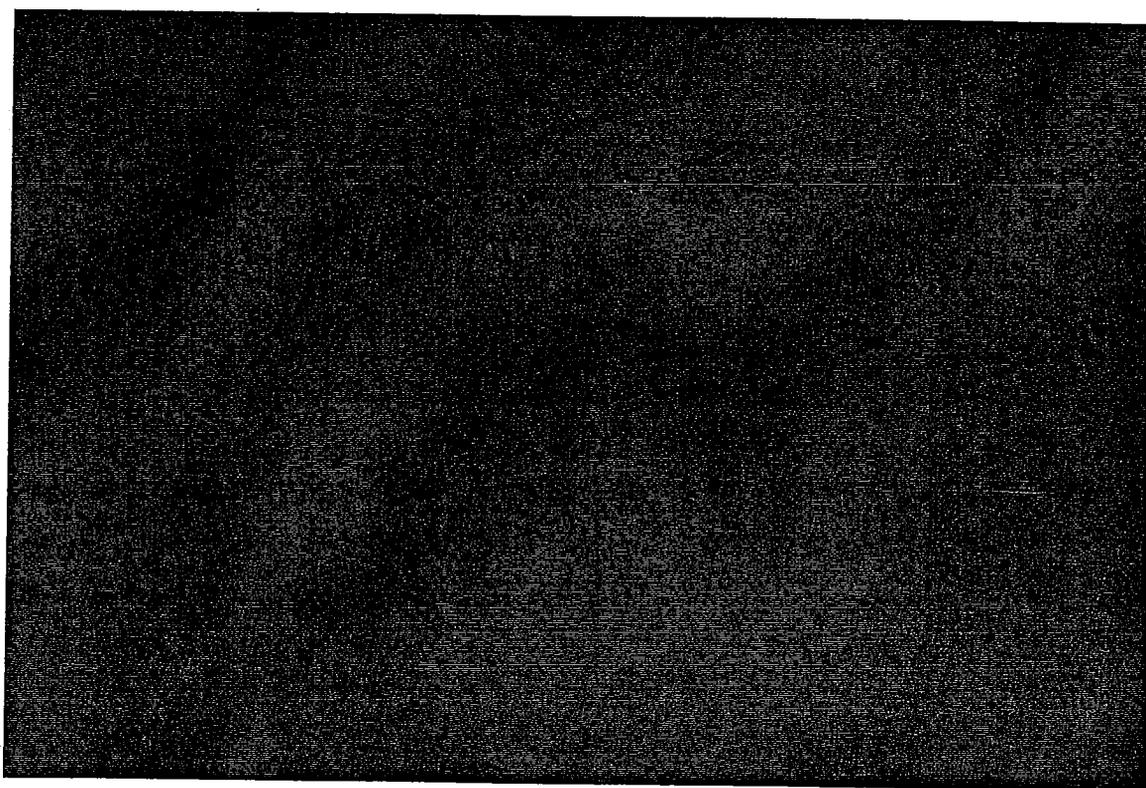
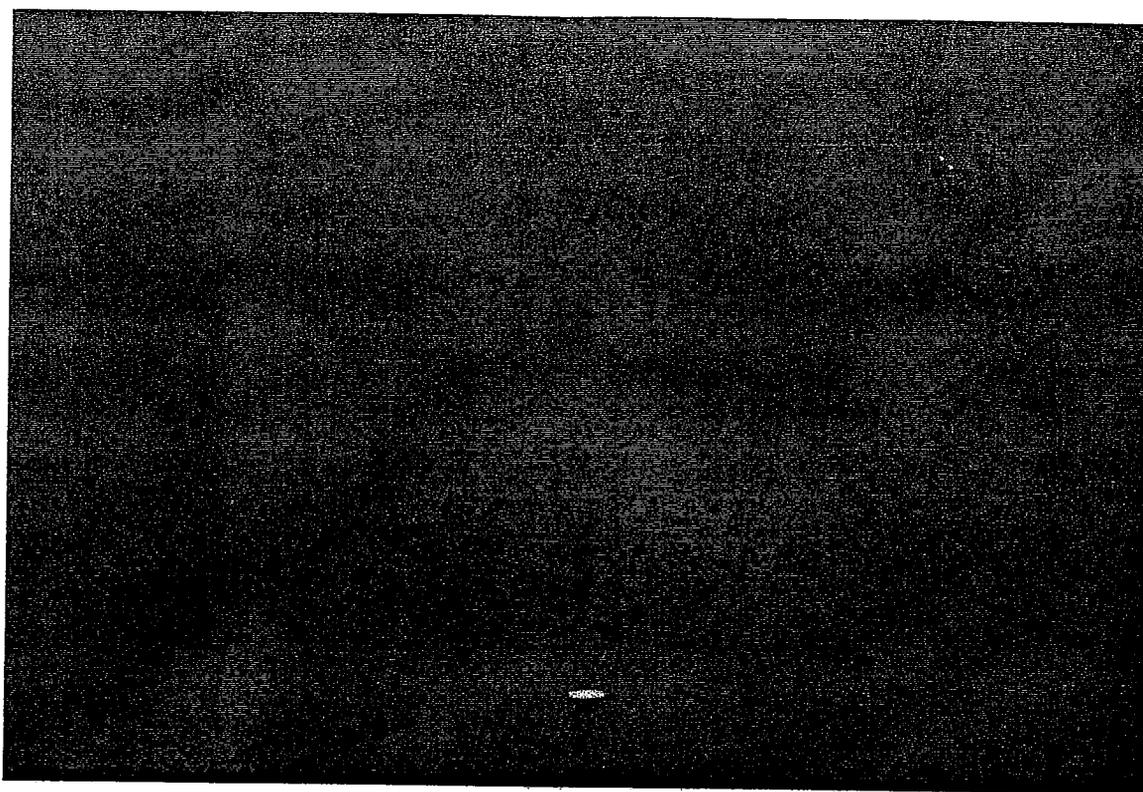












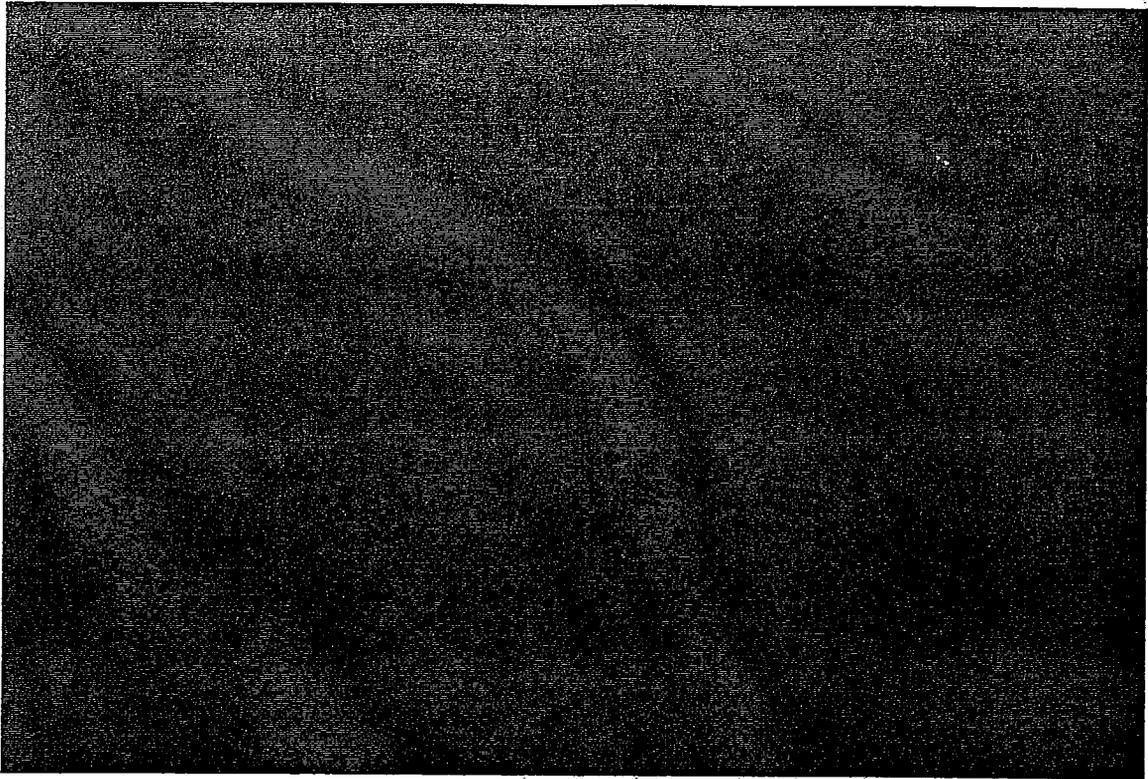


Exhibit 6

STROOCK

JOEL COHEN
DIRECT DIAL: 212-806-5644
DIRECT FAX: 212-806-2644
JCOHEN@STROOCK.COM

DANIELLE ALFONZO WALSMAN
DIRECT DIAL: 212-806-5607
DIRECT FAX: 212-806-2607
DWALSMAN@STROOCK.COM

May 18, 2009

BY EMAIL AND REGULAR MAIL

Mr. Leo Wise
Staff Director & Chief Counsel
Office of Congressional Ethics
United States House of Representatives
1017 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Request for Information, Review No. 09-2567

Dear Mr. Wise:

In response to your request for our clients' voluntary cooperation regarding your office's questions pertaining to the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (the "Conference"), we submit the following responses. Based upon our review of the questions and our multiple conversations with your office, we believe that these responses contain the information that you are seeking. As with our previous production, to the extent that the Freedom of Information Act is applicable to any submissions made to the Office of Congressional Ethics, our clients hereby request that the information provided be treated confidentially.

The Host country participated in the Conference as follows: (1) developed local Host Committees to facilitate local planning, (2) helped to negotiate the rate with the hotel, (3) assisted in developing the theme of the Conference, (4) assisted in identifying local speakers, including the Leader of Government, (5) assisted in local publicity, (6) provided local entertainment, including a school choir and cultural items, (7) arranged Host Country Evening on Friday, November 8 (the group was transported to another property for refreshments and entertainment), (8) helped with local transportation for some Carib News employees and helped arrange accommodations for some guests (not paying for such accommodations), (9) participated

09-6333 0068

Leo Wise, Esq.
May 18, 2009
Page 2

as event Speakers, and (10) issued invitations to attend to specially invited guests. The Host Country provided no funds towards the cost of the Conference.

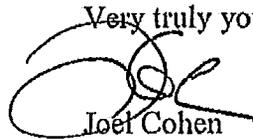
The cost for members of the public to attend the conference for the four days and three nights was \$840.00 for double occupancy or \$1085.00 for single occupancy. The cost of attendance covered room accommodations, meals, and admission to the Conference presentations.

The attending Members of Congress participated in sessions relevant to their Committee assignments in Congress and demonstrated interest in a particular subject matter. For example, Congressman Bennie Thompson spoke at presentations on Hemispheric Security and Immigration/ Deportees, Congresswoman Donna Christensen spoke at a Town Hall Forum on Health, and Congressman Charles Rangel spoke at presentations on Haiti and the Caribbean, and the current crises facing them. In addition, all of the Members of Congress participated in a session with the local Ministers of Government to discuss issues of interest to the Caribbean region. Though correspondence with the Members of Congress indicated that a memo of the Closed Door Session would be distributed after the Conference, no such memo was ever drafted or distributed.

The total cost of the Conference approached \$300,000. These costs included direct expenses such as travel, event planner fees, local staffing, and hotel payments, as well as Carib News operating expenses for the purpose of the preparation and implementation of the Conference. The Conference costs were paid using (1) registration fees by the attending guests, (2) contributions from corporate participants, some to Carib News and others to Carib News Foundation, and (3) general funds of Carib News. Each of three sources of funding was pooled together to pay the various expenses.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please do not hesitate to call.

Very truly yours,



Joel Cohen

and



Danielle Alfonzo Walsman

09-6333 0069

Exhibit 7

AKIN GUMP
STRAUSS HAUER & FELD

Attorneys at Law

STEVEN R. ROSS
202.887.4343/fax: 202.887.4288
sross@akingump.com

March 31, 2009

Mr. Leo J. Wise
Staff Director and Chief Counsel
Office of Congressional Ethics
1017 Longworth Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Re: Citigroup, Inc. Production

Dear Leo:

On behalf of our client, Citigroup Inc., we are providing you with two documents in response to your oral request of March 17, 2009. Please find a copy of a solicitation letter to support the 2008 Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, dated April 4, 2008, from Carib News Foundation to our client. In addition, please find a copy of both the front and back of check number 5006611264, dated June 13, 2008, payable to Carib News Inc. in the amount of \$75,000.00. A search of our client's records has not uncovered any evidence of a receipt being provided for the above-mentioned check. We will produce this document should it be identified.

The documents we are producing today are confidential and proprietary in nature, and have been marked accordingly. We ask that these documents be kept confidential by your Office and your staff. Notwithstanding our request that these documents be kept confidential, due to their sensitivity, we ask that your office or staff provide us with notice and an opportunity to be heard before disclosure of any information from these documents to any third parties.

In addition, we are providing you with an original signed document of Michael Flanigan dated March 23, 2009, acknowledging the False Statements Act.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Ross

09-6333 0071



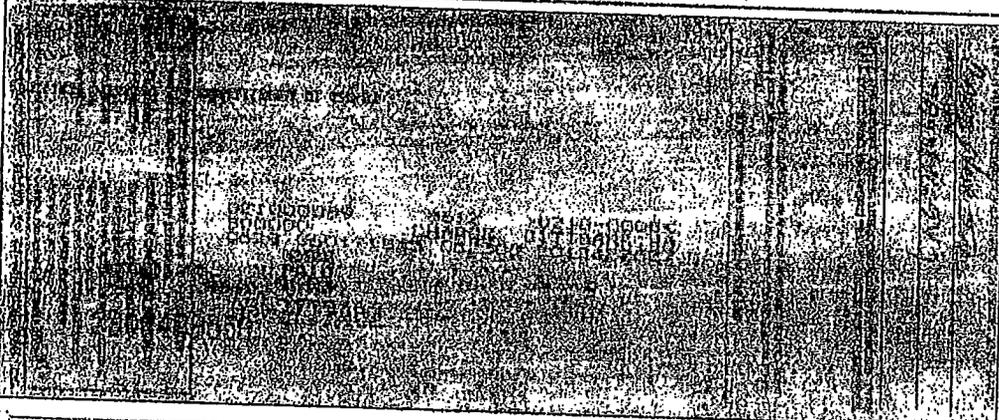
Citi Check Image Delivery

Print Close Window

Check Image Enquiry Results

Account #	Check #	Amount	Paid Date
00000038853877	5006611264	\$75,000.00	06/24/2008

<p>CITIGROUP BUSINESS SERVICES PAYMENT SERVICES 3800 CITIBANK CENTER DR. 03-1 TAMPA, FL 33610 CUSTOMER SERVICE (813) 601-1234</p>	62-20	No. 6003511264
	311	Date: 13-JUN-2008
PAY TO THE ORDER OF	CARIB NEWS INC \$50171835 07 062308. CHARGE	Vendor No. 295513
	7 WEST 35TH STREET 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK NY 10010	
		75,000.00 NOT VALID AFTER 180 DAYS
SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS		<i>Andrew Hamblin</i>
CITIBANK DELAWARE, A SUBSIDIARY OF CITIGROUP ONE PENNS WY., NEWCASTLE, DE 19720		
⑆5006611264⑆ ⑆031600209⑆ 38853877⑆ ⑆000750000⑆		





Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991: Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

April 04, 2008

Mr. Eric Eve
Senior Vice President
Community Relations
Global Consumer Group
Citigroup Inc.
850 Third Avenue, 12th floor
New York, NY 10022

Dear Mr. Eve: *Eric*

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

Your support and that of *CITI* went a long way to make the Conference a success, and has fostered on-going growth in business achievements and impactful policy decisions. We appreciate your encouragement, your personal participation, and the very stature your presence brings to the Conference. We do get concrete results and expressed appreciation of new opportunities.

We can assure you that all the key stakeholders, Members of Congress, Heads and Ministers of Government, Elected Officials, Community and Business Leaders are all aware and appreciative of yours and *CITI'S* participation in this very important mission.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. We know of your interest to deepen the *CITI* local, regional and global connections, and I know the Conference can achieve that. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

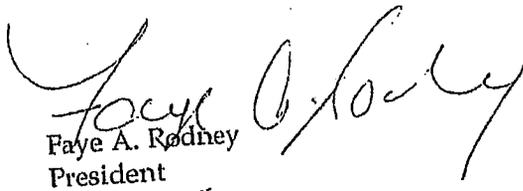
09-6338 0073

We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail.
I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

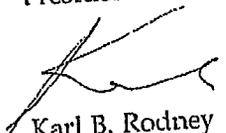
Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO



OPENING THE REGION

INVESTMENT & BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BUILDING THE GLOBAL NETWORK

GOVERNMENT LEADERS - ELECTED OFFICIALS

IMPACTING ECONOMIC POLICIES

PARTNERSHIPS

CORPORATE EXECUTIVES - SEEKING

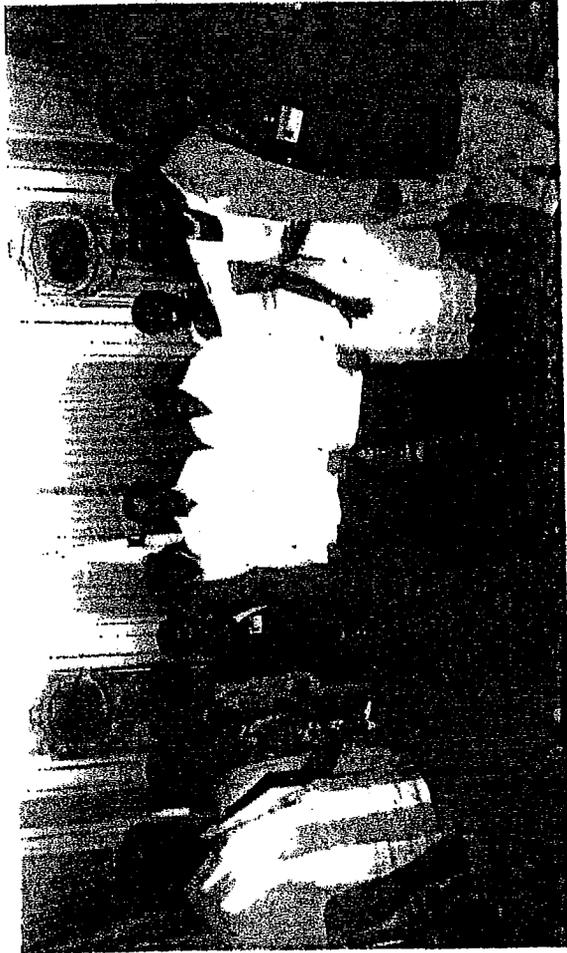
EXPANSION & GROWTH

DOING BUSINESS TOGETHER



“IMPACTFUL”

EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF THE



THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CARIBBEAN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

ST. MAARTEN

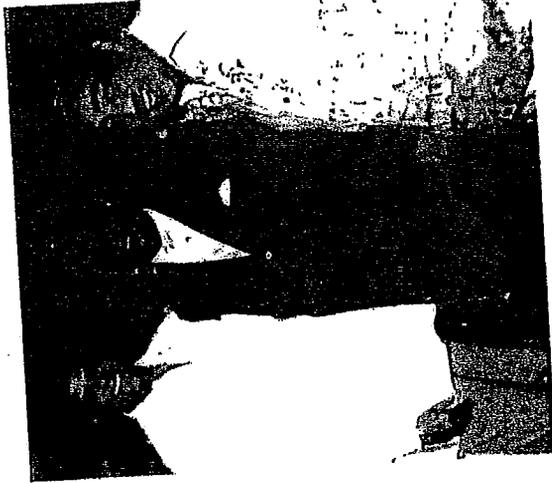
NOVEMBER 6 - 9, 2008

BUILDING KEY CONNECTIONS FOR GROWTH



THE MISSION

- ◆ To bring together businesses, community, and government leaders interested in understanding the economic opportunities in the Caribbean marketplace locally and in the Caribbean.
- ◆ To make a global community among Diverse Business entities and The Caribbean.
- ◆ To Link the emerging markets of the U.S and the Developing Economics of the Caribbean and Latin America.

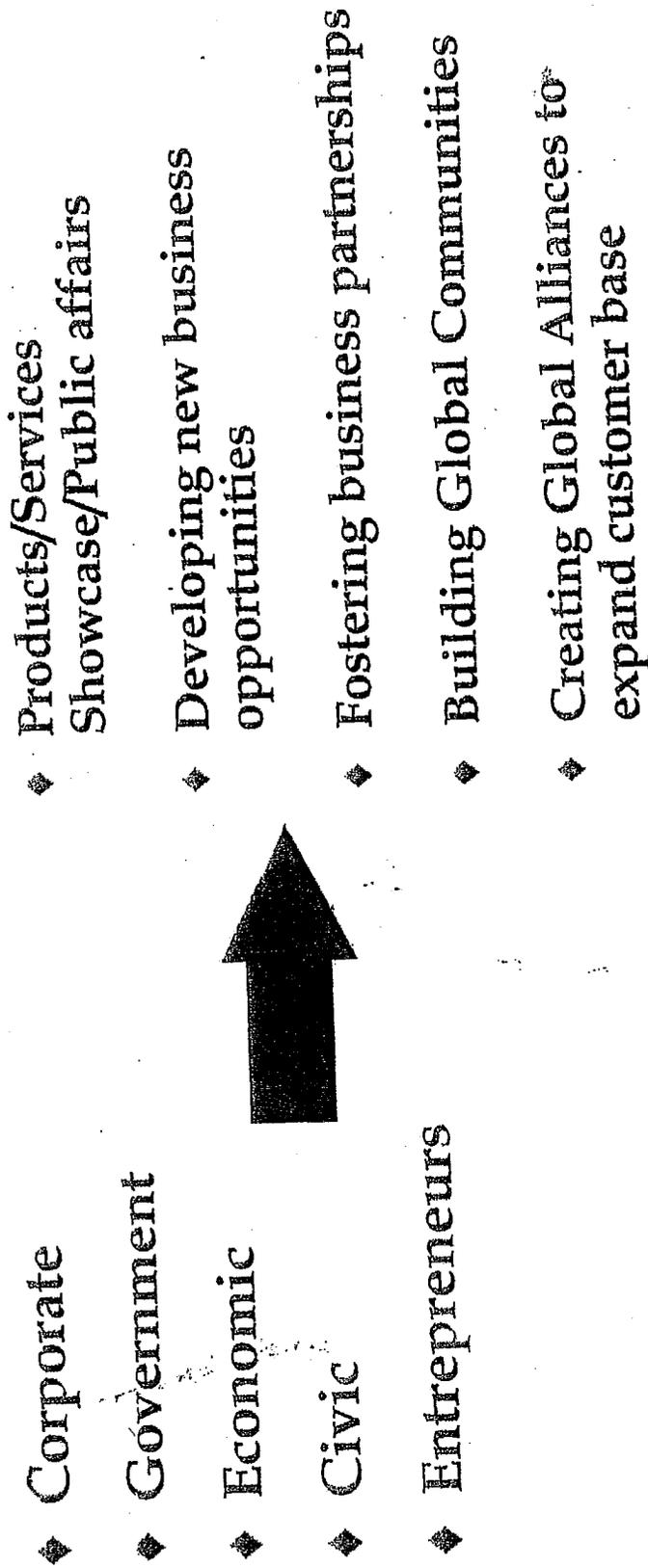


THE OPPORTUNITY

- ◆ **Marketing:** Understanding the market in the US and the Caribbean.
- ◆ **Business development:** Meeting potential customers and potential partners.
- ◆ **Strategic analysis:** Understanding the possibilities of emerging markets in the US and the Caribbean.
- ◆ **Corporate image:** Demonstrating your commitment to the Caribbean Community, and the program of diversity.
- ◆ **Community relations:** Establishing lasting relationships with key community leaders.
- ◆ **Government relations:** Meeting with and discussing topics of interest with significant elected officials from the US & the Caribbean.



STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS



THE LEGACY

- ♦ Jamaica - 1996
 - ♦ Barbados - 1997
 - ♦ St. Lucia - 1998
 - ♦ St. Croix/USVI - 1999
 - ♦ Jamaica - 2000
 - ♦ Grenada - 2001
 - ♦ St. Maarten - 2002
 - ♦ The Bahamas-2003
 - ♦ St. Kitts-Nevis-2004
 - ♦ ST. Thomas, USVI - 2005
 - ♦ Panama city, Panama - 2006
 - ♦ Antigua & Barbuda - 2007
- ♦ Building Consumers Awareness
 - ♦ Developing Working Alliances
 - ♦ Reaching Defined Target Markets
 - ♦ Making the Right Connections
 - ♦ Expanding Diverse Market Places
 - ♦ Successful Joint/Ventures
 - ♦ Successful Regional Investments



THE OVERVIEW

"Some companies have discovered that the Caribbean offers a great deal more than beautiful beaches and sunshine. They have recognized its tactical importance in this era of globalization. We are proud to provide a useful platform for companies that are seeking to sharpen their international competitiveness.

For the past twelve years, the Annual Multinational Business Conference has been creating links between the Caribbean, Central America and the U.S. Usually, during four days of workshops, luncheons and dinners, Caribbean Political Heads of State and Ministers of Government, Members of the Congressional Black Caucus, Local and Regional Politicians, business persons and influential individuals from the U.S. and the Caribbean discuss, interact and network around issues of mutual concern. Relationships are built and business deals are made.

We hope that in 2008 you will join us"



PARTICIPATION

Platinum LEVEL - \$75,000

- ❖ Keynote Speaker at Main Event
- ❖ Sponsor Private VIP Reception and specially arranged forum
- ❖ Special Awards Presentation
- ❖ Display, Exhibition and signage
- ❖ Area of Conference - Reserved for exclusive sponsorship
- ❖ Full page Ad in program
- ❖ Air Transportation for 2 people
- ❖ Accommodations: One Suite and One Standard Room
- ❖ Included in all printed materials
- ❖ Included in Internet promotion
- ❖ Display company logo and link to our website
- ❖ Sponsor of a Gala Event
- ❖ Sponsor and Participate in a workshop
- ❖ Representative listed in program with bio and photo



PARTICIPATION

GOLD LEVEL - \$50,000

- ◆ Sponsor a Workshop
- ◆ Sponsor a Gala Event
- ◆ Display Exhibition and signage
- ◆ Included in all Printed Material
- ◆ Included in all Internet Promotion
- ◆ Display of Company Logo and Link to Our Website
- ◆ Full Page Ad in Program
- ◆ Representation in the Brochure
- ◆ Air Transportation & room accommodations for 1



11th
DOING
BUSINESS
TOGETHER
CARIBNEWS
MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

PARTICIPATION

SILVER LEVEL - \$25,000

- ◆ Sponsor & Participate in a Workshop
- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in all printed materials
- ◆ Included in Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Sponsor an event i.e. breakfast, lunch or dinner
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in program with bio & photos
- ◆ Representatives listed in brochure



PARTICIPATION

SUPPORTER

\$15,000

- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in all printed materials
- ◆ Included in Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in brochure
- ◆ Representatives listed in program with bio & photo

\$10,000

- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in some printed materials
- ◆ Included in some Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and 1/2 page in recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in program



Government Participation

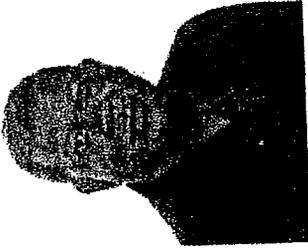
"This Conference is keeping us informed. There would never have been a banana problem had we (CBC) known about the issue before it went to the WTO."
Congressman Charles Rangel



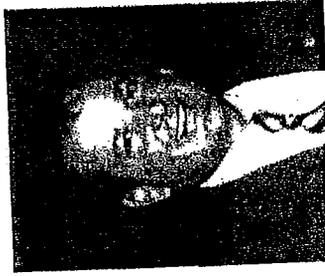
"The conference is central to the promotion of our mutual interests in the U.S. in general, New York City in particular, and the Caribbean. It is essential for all of us to work together to spur economic growth and social expansion at home and in our neighborhoods."
William Thompson, Comptroller, New York City



"The Conference in Antigua with Members of the U.S. Congress was very important and extremely vital to both the U.S. and Caribbean interests. It highlighted the need for the Caribbean to pay greater attention to the role of Congress in the formulation of U.S. policy."
*Hon. Baldwin Spencer
Prime Minister of Antigua*



"The results of the Conference went far beyond our expectations. The process of bringing families together, of sharing a vision for our countries, couldn't have been scripted. The sessions brought out ideas, options and other benefits which should be long lasting."
Juan Carlos Navarro, Mayor, Panama City, Republic of Panama



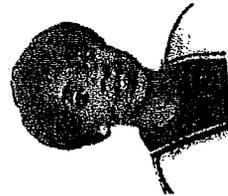
CORPORATE PARTICIPANTS



Eric Eve - SVP Community Relations, CITIGROUP. "The time is ripe for Caribbean nations to come together and get on "the road," to articulate the strength of their economies and stability of their business climates. The Conference is a great place to start to open clear lines of communication between the private and public sectors of the Caribbean and the U.S."



Marilyn Johnson, VP Market Development, IBM Corporation - "IBM and its partner ENI Enterprise Network, through its presentation at the Conference, is taking the audience up through levels of technology, understanding the application of E-commerce. This conference makes a difference in the lives of the attendees."



Karen Boykin-Towns, Senior Director of Public Affairs - Pfizer - "The conference provides an ideal opportunity for Pfizer - it demonstrates its commitment to health forums internationally, but also to network with key decision makers. Collaboration is necessary between the Caribbean to make improvements and adjustments to healthcare and its delivery."



Edward J. Goldberg, SVP Government & Consumer Affairs, MACYS - "We have whole files of opportunities to build business partnerships in the current corporate environment. The conference is conducive to exploring new areas of business, and we have taken advantage of this to both the region and MACY's benefit."



Marie Long, VP Constituency Relations, AT&T Foundation - "As many of you know, AT&T has changed in the last 5 years. Its growth, dynamism and change have created what some of us call the new AT&T. The real and driving force behind our success as a corporate entity is the culture of inclusion and collaboration. We recognize the great work being done at the conference to improve business and personal lives, exchange ideas, and assist alternative strategies that could lead to technology transfer and to growth."



Javier Evans, FVP Human Resources, HSBC Bank - "We provide financial services to a vast array of businesses and individuals, and this gives us a unique perspective on different cultures and ways of doing business. We want to engage our partners in mutually beneficial relationships within our communities and that is why we seize the opportunity to link with a tremendous value to us."



CARIB NEWS and the Conference.

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES

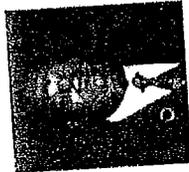
Ambassador Andrew Young

"If only the sons and daughters of Africa will remember from whence they came, then our roots should be a constant reminder of who we are and where our countries can go with our input. This is why the Carib News Conference is so important and that is why I support it."



David Dinkins, Former Mayor of New York City
 "Education is the very key for the development of our people. I have always held that position; that is why I am so pleased to participate in the Education Forum at the Conference. There is an eagerness on the part of the audience to know more about our system. The collaborative effort of CARIB NEWS and the Conference wins my support."

Roy Hastick, President/CEO Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce



"The work of the Conference is legendary in the Caribbean and the U.S. Where else do you find this level of leadership from all sectors coming together to advance doing business. It is the most effective way of building a Global Network."

Hazel N. Dukes, President, New York State NAACP

"The conferences, presenters and participants have been extraordinary. I have gained tremendous knowledge on the Caribbean Diaspora. I continue to promote and foster relationships with communities here and at home"



Susan Taylor, Editor Emeritus, Essence Magazine

"It is always so wonderful to experience the drive, enthusiasm and determination of the Conference participants. It says something wonderful is happening and we all need to tap into it. It provides such outstanding opportunities to connect with real people who can make things happen."

Harry Belafonte, Entertainer

"The Conference is like a table set with a feast of great ideas provided by some of the best minds. The table is set - it is for us to partake"

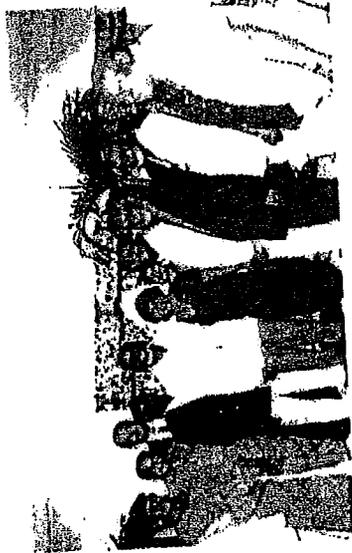
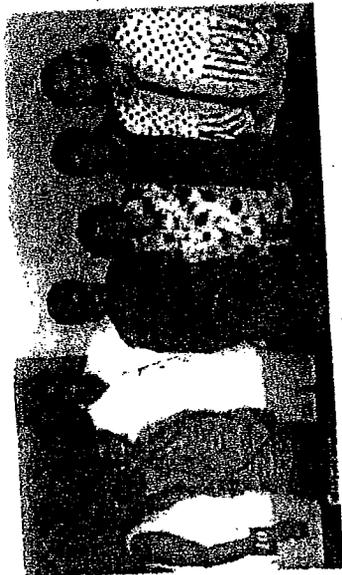


Lloyd Williams, President/CEO Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce

"I have always advocated cross-border business opportunities for the Chamber members, and that is why for the entire twelve years of the conference, the Chamber has made it a priority event. Our members have reaped the benefits and have also made great contributions."



INVEST IN SUCCESS



**A WEEK-END THAT CHANGES
LIVES**

'EXPERIENCE THE POWER'



Exhibit 8

Board
David Skaggs, Chair Porter Goss, Co-Chair
Yvonne Burke Jay Eagen
Karan English William Frenzel
Allison Hayward Abner Mikva



Leo J. Wise, Staff Director & Chief Counsel
1017 Longworth House Office Building
(202) 225-9739
(202) 226-0997 fax
email address: oce@mail.house.gov
website address: oce.house.gov

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

Mr. Frank Weber
Internal Revenue Service
Freedom of Information Reading Room
1111 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20224

March 31, 2009

Dear Mr. Weber,

Thank you for talking with me this afternoon and for offering to help me with this request. I need to know if Carib News Charities filed a 990-PF for tax years 2006, 2007, and 2008 (I have included tax year 2008 in the event that the foundation filed before the filing deadline). I understand that the organization is not required to file if it did not receive donations in excess of \$25,000. If the foundation has filed a 990-PF for 2006, 2007, or 2008, we would like to have a copy of the tax form(s). In the event that it takes several days, weeks, or months to receive the requested copies, it would be helpful to have an answer to the question whether the organization has filed and for what year(s) tax form(s) exist.

It is our understanding that the organization also does business as Carib News Foundation; however, Carib News Foundation is not found in Publication 78.

My telephone number is 202-225-9739 and my email is Elizabeth.horton@mail.house.gov.
Thank you again for your help with this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Horton".

Elizabeth Horton

Request for Public Inspection or Copy of Exempt or Political Organization IRS Form

OMB No. 1545-0495

▶ Type or print clearly. Request may be rejected if the form is incomplete or illegible.

TIP You may not have to complete Form 4506-A to get the copies you need.

- **Internet.** Form 8871, Political Organization Notice of Section 527 Status, and Form 8872, Political Organization Report of Contributions and Expenditures, are available for inspection and printing from the Internet. The website address for both forms is www.irs.gov/polorgs.
- **Public disclosure by the organization.** Exempt or political organizations must make their returns, reports, notices, and exempt applications available for public inspection. You can visit the organization to inspect the material instead of requesting it from the IRS. The organization may be able to mail the copies to you.

1 Exempt or political organization. If a multiple request, please attach list of names, forms, and tax years.

Name CARIB NEWS CHARITIES	Employer identification number (if known) 13 : 3632050
Address 7 WEST 36th STREET, FLOOR 8	
City or town, state, and ZIP code NEW YORK, NY 10018	

Name OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS	Contact person ELIZABETH HORTON
Address 1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING	
City or town, state, and ZIP code WASHINGTON, DC 20515	
Phone (202) 225-9739	
Date 3/31/09	

3 Category of requester: Commercial user Non-commercial scientific institution
 Educational institution Media All others

4 Reason for request. All requesters except for commercial users must provide an explanation of how the records will be used to avoid being charged the commercial rate. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

TO CONFIRM WHETHER FOUNDATION RECEIVED FUNDING IN TAX YEARS 2006, 2007, 2008

Lines 5-9. For each applicable form, check the box(es) for the item(s) you are requesting. You may request more than one form. For each form requested, check either the copy, inspection, or CD/DVD box and enter the specific tax year(s), as indicated. If ordering a partial set on CD/DVD, indicate the format, state(s), and month(s) requested.

5 Form 990, Form 990-EZ CD/DVD Format: Alchemy Raw
 Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: _____
 State(s): _____; _____; _____
 Months: _____; _____; _____

6 Form 990-PF CD/DVD Format: Alchemy Raw
 Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: **2006, 2007, 2008 (if filed)**
 State(s): _____; _____; _____
 Months: _____; _____; _____

7 Form 990-T (501(c)(3) organizations filed after 8/17/2006) CD/DVD Format: Alchemy Raw
 Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: _____; _____; _____
 State(s): _____; _____; _____
 Months: _____; _____; _____

8 Form 5227 Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: _____; _____; _____

9 Form 1023, 1024 or Determination Letter Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: _____; _____; _____

IRS Use Only

The form requested above was inspected by (name of requester)	IRS office where inspection was made
Signature of employee present at inspection	Date

OGDEN UT 84201-0058

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
ATTN: ELIZABETH HORTON
1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515

CUT OUT AND RETURN THE VOUCHER AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE IF YOU ARE MAKING A PAYMENT,
EVEN IF YOU ALSO HAVE AN INQUIRY.

The IRS address must appear in the window:
0412606945

BODCD-TE

Use for payments

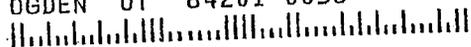
Letter Number: LTR3983C
Letter Date : 2009-04-17
Tax Period : 000000



133632050

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

OGDEN UT 84201-0058



OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
ATTN: ELIZABETH HORTON
1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515

OGDEN UT 84201-0058

In reply refer to: 0412606945
Apr. 17, 2009 LTR 3983C E1
13-3632050 000000 00 000
00027842
BODC: TE

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
ATTN: ELIZABETH HORTON
1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515

Taxpayer Identification Number: 13-3632050
Organization: Carib News Charities, Inc.

Form(s): 990PF

Tax Period(s): May 31, 2006 May 31, 2007
May 31, 2008

Dear Requester:

We received your Mar. 31, 2009, request for a copy of the Form(s) 990PF relating to the organization(s) identified above. Enclosed is a copy of the form(s) you requested. We are unable to provide a copy of the form(s) requested for the following tax period(s):

May 31, 2006

We regret that we can not provide a photocopy of return(s) for the organization(s) and year(s) you requested. There are a variety of reasons why these returns are not available, for example:

- the organization may not be required to file the requested return because its gross receipts are \$25,000 or less.
- the organization may be included in a group ruling and the parent may have filed a group return.
- the organization may have received an extension of time to file.
- processing of the organization's return may not be complete.
- return(s) are destroyed after a certain number of tax years.
- the organization may not be required to file.

If you have any questions, please write us at the address shown at the top of the first page of this letter. Or, you may call us toll free at 1-877-829-5500.

Whenever you write, please include this letter and, in the spaces below, give us your telephone number with the hours we can reach you. Please keep a copy of this letter for your records.

Telephone Number () _____ Hours _____

Form **990-PF**

Return of Private Foundation
 or Section 4947(a)(1) Nonexempt Charitable Trust
 Treated as a Private Foundation

OMB No 1545-0052

2005

Department of the Treasury
 Internal Revenue Service

Note: The organization may be able to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements

For calendar year 2005, or tax year beginning **June 1**, 2005, and ending **May 31**, 20 **06**

G Check all that apply. Initial return Final return Amended return Address change Name change

Use the IRS label. Otherwise, print or type. See Specific Instructions.

Name of organization: **Catib News Charities Inc**

Number and street (or PO box number if mail is not delivered to street address): **15 West 39th Street**

Room/suite: **13**

City or town, state, and ZIP code: **New York, NY 10018**

A Employer identification number: **13:3632050**

B Telephone number (see page 10 of the instructions): **()**

H Check type of organization: Section 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation
 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust Other taxable private foundation

I Fair market value of all assets at end of year (from Part II, col. (c), line 16) **> \$**

J Accounting method: Cash Accrual
 Other (specify) _____
 (Part I, column (d) must be on cash basis)

C If exemption application is pending, check here
 D 1. Foreign organizations, check here
 2. Foreign organizations meeting the 85% test, check here and attach computation
 E If private foundation status was terminated under section 507(b)(1)(A), check here
 F If the foundation is in a 60-month termination under section 507(b)(1)(B), check here

Part I Analysis of Revenue and Expenses (The total of amounts in columns (b), (c), and (d) may not necessarily equal the amounts in column (a) (see page 11 of the instructions))		(a) Revenue and expenses per books	(b) Net investment income	(c) Adjusted net income	(d) Disbursements for charitable purposes (cash basis only)
Revenue	1 Contributions, gifts, grants, etc., received (attach schedule)	0			
	2 Check <input type="checkbox"/> if the foundation is not required to attach Sch B				
	3 Interest on savings and temporary cash investments				
	4 Dividends and interest from securities				
	5a Gross rents				
	b Net rental income or (loss)				
	6a Net gain or (loss) from sale of assets not on line 10				
	b Gross sales price for all assets on line 6a				
	7 Capital gain net income (from Part IV, line 2)				
	8 Net short-term capital gain				
	9 Income modifications				
	10a Gross sales less returns and allowances				
b Less: Cost of goods sold					
c Gross profit or (loss) (attach schedule)					
11 Other income (attach schedule)					
12 Total. Add lines 1 through 11	100				
Operating and Administrative Expenses	13 Compensation of officers, directors, trustees, etc				
	14 Other employee salaries and wages				
	15 Pension plans, employee benefits				
	16a Legal fees (attach schedule)				
	b Accounting fees (attach schedule)				
	c Other professional fees (attach schedule)				
	17 Interest				
	18 Taxes (attach schedule) (see page 14 of the instructions)				
	19 Depreciation (attach schedule) and depletion				
	20 Occupancy				
	21 Travel, conferences, and meetings				
	22 Printing and publications				
	23 Other expenses (attach schedule)				
	24 Total operating and administrative expenses. Add lines 13 through 23				
	25 Contributions, gifts, grants paid				
26 Total expenses and disbursements. Add lines 24 and 25					
27 Subtract line 26 from line 12:					
a Excess of revenue over expenses and disbursements					
b Net investment income (if negative, enter -0-)					
c Adjusted net income (if negative, enter -0-)					

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AUG 27 2007

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SCANNED JAN 16 2008
 Operating and Administrative Expenses

For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the instructions.

Cat No 11289X

Form 990-PF (2005)

09-6333 0096

61,13 12

Form 990-PF (2005)

Part II Balance Sheets		Attached schedules and amounts in the description column should be for end-of-year amounts only (See instructions)		
		Beginning of year (a) Book Value	End of year (b) Book Value (c) Fair Market Value	
Assets	1	Cash—non-interest-bearing	0	0
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments		
	3	Accounts receivable		
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts		
	4	Pledges receivable		
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts		
	5	Grants receivable		
	6	Receivables due from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons (attach schedule) (see page 15 of the instructions)		
	7	Other notes and loans receivable (attach schedule)		
		Less allowance for doubtful accounts		
	8	Inventories for sale or use		
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges		
	10a	Investments—U S and state government obligations (attach schedule)		
	b	Investments—corporate stock (attach schedule)		
	c	Investments—corporate bonds (attach schedule)		
	11	Investments—land, buildings, and equipment basis		
	Less accumulated depreciation (attach schedule)			
12	Investments—mortgage loans			
13	Investments—other (attach schedule)			
14	Land, buildings, and equipment basis			
	Less accumulated depreciation (attach schedule)			
15	Other assets (describe)			
16	Total assets (to be completed by all filers—see page 16 of the instructions Also, see page 1, item f)	0	0	
Liabilities	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses		
	18	Grants payable		
	19	Deferred revenue		
	20	Loans from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons		
	21	Mortgages and other notes payable (attach schedule)		
	22	Other liabilities (describe)		
23	Total liabilities (add lines 17 through 22)			
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 24 through 26 and lines 30 and 31.			
	24	Unrestricted		
	25	Temporarily restricted		
	26	Permanently restricted		
	Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 31.			
	27	Capital stock, trust principal, or current funds		
	28	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, bldg., and equipment fund		
29	Retained earnings, accumulated income, endowment, or other funds			
30	Total net assets or fund balances (see page 17 of the instructions)	0	0	
31	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances (see page 17 of the instructions)	0	0	

Part III Analysis of Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances

1	Total net assets or fund balances at beginning of year—Part II, column (a), line 30 (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	1	0
2	Enter amount from Part I, line 27a	2	
3	Other increases not included in line 2 (itemize)	3	
4	Add lines 1, 2, and 3	4	
5	Decreases not included in line 2 (itemize)	5	
6	Total net assets or fund balances at end of year (line 4 minus line 5)—Part II, column (b), line 30	6	

09-6333 0097

Form 990-PF (2005)

Form 990-PF (2005)

Part IV Capital Gains and Losses for Tax on Investment Income

(a) List and describe the kind(s) of property sold (e.g., real estate, 2-story brick warehouse, or common stock, 200 shs MLC Co)	(b) How acquired P—Purchase D—Donation	(c) Date acquired (mo., day, yr.)	(d) Date sold (mo., day, yr.)
1a			
b			
c			
d			

(e) Gross sales price	(f) Depreciation allowed (or allowable)	(g) Cost or other basis plus expense of sale	(h) Gain or (loss) (e) plus (f) minus (g)
a			
b			
c			
d			

Complete only for assets showing gain in column (h) and owned by the foundation on 12/31/69			(i) Gains (Col (h) gain minus col (k), but not less than -0-) or Losses (from col (h))
(j) FMV as of 12/31/69	(k) Adjusted basis as of 12/31/69	(l) Excess of col (j) over col (k), if any	
a			
b			
c			
d			

2 Capital gain net income or (net capital loss) { If gain, also enter in Part I, line 11 If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 12 }	2
3 Net short-term capital gain or (loss) as defined in sections 1222(5) and (6). If gain, also enter in Part I, line 8, column (c) (see pages 13 and 17 of the instructions). If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 8	3

Part V Qualification Under Section 4940(e) for Reduced Tax on Net Investment Income

(For optional use by domestic private foundations subject to the section 4940(a) tax on net investment income.)
If section 4940(d)(2) applies, leave this part blank.

Was the organization liable for the section 4942 tax on the distributable amount of any year in the base period? Yes No
If "Yes," the organization does not qualify under section 4940(e). Do not complete this part.

1 Enter the appropriate amount in each column for each year; see page 18 of the instructions before making any entries.

(a) Base period years Calendar year (or tax year beginning in)	(b) Adjusted qualifying distributions	(c) Net value of noncharitable-use assets	(d) Distribution ratio (col (b) divided by col (c))
2004			
2003			
2002			
2001			
2000			

2 Total of line 1, column (d)	2
3 Average distribution ratio for the 5-year base period—divide the total on line 2 by 5, or by the number of years the foundation has been in existence if less than 5 years	3
4 Enter the net value of noncharitable-use assets for 2005 from Part X, line 5	4
5 Multiply line 4 by line 3	5
6 Enter 1% of net investment income (1% of Part I, line 27b)	6
7 Add lines 5 and 6	7
8 Enter qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 If line 8 is equal to or greater than line 7, check the box in Part VI, line 1b, and complete that part using a 1% tax rate. See the Part VI instructions on page 18.	8

Form 990-PF (2005)

Part VI Excise Tax Based on Investment Income (Section 4940(a), 4940(b), 4940(e), or 4948—see page 18 of the instructions)

1a	Exempt operating foundations described in section 4940(d)(2), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter "N/A" on line 1. Date of ruling letter:	1	
b	Domestic organizations that meet the section 4940(e) requirements in Part V, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter 1% of Part I, line 27b.	2	
c	All other domestic organizations enter 2% of line 27b. Exempt foreign organizations enter 4% of Part I, line 12, col (b).	3	
2	Tax under section 511 (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-)	4	
3	Add lines 1 and 2.	5	
4	Subtitle A (income) tax (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-)		
5	Tax based on investment income. Subtract line 4 from line 3. If zero or less, enter -0-		
6	Credits/Payments.		
a	2005 estimated tax payments and 2004 overpayment credited to 2005	6a	
b	Exempt foreign organizations—tax withheld at source	6b	
c	Tax paid with application for extension of time to file (Form 8868)	6c	
d	Backup withholding erroneously withheld.	6d	
7	Total credits and payments. Add lines 6a through 6d.	7	
8	Enter any penalty for underpayment of estimated tax. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if Form 2220 is attached.	8	
9	Tax due. If the total of lines 5 and 8 is more than line 7, enter amount owed	9	
10	Overpayment. If line 7 is more than the total of lines 5 and 8, enter the amount overpaid.	10	
11	Enter the amount of line 10 to be Credited to 2006 estimated tax	11	Refunded

Part VII-A Statements Regarding Activities

	Yes	No
1a		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1b		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1c		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4a		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4b		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8a		
8b		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12	Telephone no. <input type="text"/> ZIP+4 <input type="text"/>	
13	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-PF in lieu of Form 1041—Check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year <input type="text"/> 13	

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Form 990-PF (2005)

Part VII-B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required

File Form 4720 if any item is checked in the "Yes" column, unless an exception applies.

- 1a** During the year did the organization (either directly or indirectly):
- (1) Engage in the sale or exchange, or leasing of property with a disqualified person? Yes No
 - (2) Borrow money from, lend money to, or otherwise extend credit to (or accept it from) a disqualified person? Yes No
 - (3) Furnish goods, services, or facilities to (or accept them from) a disqualified person? Yes No
 - (4) Pay compensation to, or pay or reimburse the expenses of, a disqualified person? Yes No
 - (5) Transfer any income or assets to a disqualified person (or make any of either available for the benefit or use of a disqualified person)? Yes No
 - (6) Agree to pay money or property to a government official? (Exception. Check "No" if the organization agreed to make a grant to or to employ the official for a period after termination of government service, if terminating within 90 days.) Yes No
- b** If any answer is "Yes" to 1a(1)-(6), did any of the acts fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4941(d)-3 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see page 20 of the instructions)? Yes No
Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance check here
- c** Did the organization engage in a prior year in any of the acts described in 1a, other than excepted acts, that were not corrected before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2005? Yes No
- 2** Taxes on failure to distribute income (section 4942) (does not apply for years the organization was a private operating foundation defined in section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5)):
- a** At the end of tax year 2005, did the organization have any undistributed income (lines 6d and 6e, Part XIII) for tax year(s) beginning before 2005? Yes No
If "Yes," list the years 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 2680, 2681, 2682, 2683, 2684, 2685, 2686, 2687, 2688, 2689, 2690, 2691, 2692, 2693, 2694, 2695, 2696, 2697, 2698, 2699, 2700, 2701, 2702, 2703, 2704, 2705, 2706, 2707, 2708, 2709, 2710, 2711, 2712, 2713, 2714, 2715, 2716, 2717, 2718, 2719, 2720, 2721, 2722, 2723, 2724, 2725, 2726, 2727, 2728, 2729, 2730, 2731, 2732, 2733, 2734, 2735, 2736, 2737, 2738, 2739, 2740, 2741, 2742, 2743, 2744, 2745, 2746, 2747, 2748, 2749, 2750, 2751, 2752, 2753, 2754, 2755, 2756, 2757, 2758, 2759, 2760, 2761, 2762, 2763, 2764, 2765, 2766, 2767, 2768, 2769, 2770, 2771, 2772, 2773, 2774, 2775, 2776, 2777, 2778, 2779, 2780, 2781, 2782, 2783, 2784, 2785, 2786, 2787, 2788, 2789, 2790, 2791, 2792, 2793, 2794, 2795, 2796, 2797, 2798, 2799, 2800, 2801, 2802, 2803, 2804, 2805, 2806, 2807, 2808, 2809, 2810, 2811, 2812, 2813, 2814, 2815, 2816, 2817, 2818, 2819, 2820, 2821, 2822, 2823, 2824, 2825, 2826, 2827, 2828, 2829, 2830, 2831, 2832, 2833, 2834, 2835, 2836, 2837, 2838, 2839, 2840, 2841, 2842, 2843, 2844, 2845, 2846, 2847, 2848, 2849, 2850, 2851, 2852, 2853, 2854, 2855, 2856, 2857, 2858, 2859, 2860, 2861, 2862, 2863, 2864, 2865, 2866, 2867, 2868, 2869, 2870, 2871, 2872, 2873, 2874, 2875, 2876, 2877, 2878, 2879, 2880, 2881, 2882, 2883, 2884, 2885, 2886, 2887, 2888, 2889, 2890, 2891, 2892, 2893, 2894, 2895, 2896, 2897, 2898, 2899, 2900, 2901, 2902, 2903, 2904, 2905, 2906, 2907, 2908, 2909, 2910, 2911, 2912, 2913, 2914, 2915, 2916, 2917, 2918, 2919, 2920, 2921, 2922, 2923, 2924, 2925, 2926, 2927, 2928, 2929, 2930, 2931, 2932, 2933, 2934, 2935, 2936, 2937, 2938, 2939, 2940, 2941, 2942, 2943, 2944, 2945, 2946, 2947, 2948, 2949, 2950, 2951, 2952, 2953, 2954, 2955, 2956, 2957,

Form 990-PF (2005)

Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors

1 List all officers, directors, trustees, foundation managers and their compensation (see page 21 of the instructions).

(a) Name and address	(b) Title, and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances

2 Compensation of five highest-paid employees (other than those included on line 1—see page 21 of the instructions). If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$50,000	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
NONE				

Total number of other employees paid over \$50,000.

3 Five highest-paid independent contractors for professional services—(see page 21 of the instructions). If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each person paid more than \$50,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
NONE		

Total number of others receiving over \$50,000 for professional services

Part IX-A Summary of Direct Charitable Activities

List the foundation's four largest direct charitable activities during the tax year. Include relevant statistical information such as the number of organizations and other beneficiaries served, conferences convened, research papers produced, etc

	Expenses
1. NONE	
2.	
3.	
4.	

Form 990-PF (2005)

Part IX-B Summary of Program-Related Investments (see page 22 of the instructions)

Describe the two largest program-related investments made by the foundation during the tax year on lines 1 and 2		Amount
1	
2	
All other program-related investments See page 22 of the instructions		
3	
Total. Add lines 1 through 3		

Part X Minimum Investment Return (All domestic foundations must complete this part. Foreign foundations, see page 22 of the instructions.)

1	Fair market value of assets not used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes:	
a	Average monthly fair market value of securities	1a
b	Average of monthly cash balances	1b
c	Fair market value of all other assets (see page 23 of the instructions)	1c
d	Total (add lines 1a, b, and c)	1d
e	Reduction claimed for blockage or other factors reported on lines 1a and 1c (attach detailed explanation)	1e
2	Acquisition indebtedness applicable to line 1 assets	2
3	Subtract line 2 from line 1d	3
4	Cash deemed held for charitable activities. Enter 1½% of line 3 (for greater amount, see page 23 of the instructions)	4
5	Net value of noncharitable-use assets. Subtract line 4 from line 3. Enter here and on Part V, line 4	5
6	Minimum investment return. Enter 5% of line 5	6

Part XI Distributable Amount (see page 23 of the instructions) (Section 4942(j)(3) and (j)(5) private operating foundations and certain foreign organizations check here and do not complete this part.)

1	Minimum investment return from Part X, line 6	1
2a	Tax on investment income for 2005 from Part VI, line 5	2a
2b	Income tax for 2005. (This does not include the tax from Part VI.)	2b
c	Add lines 2a and 2b	2c
3	Distributable amount before adjustments Subtract line 2c from line 1	3
4	Recoveries of amounts treated as qualifying distributions	4
5	Add lines 3 and 4	5
6	Deduction from distributable amount (see page 24 of the instructions)	6
7	Distributable amount as adjusted. Subtract line 6 from line 5. Enter here and on Part XIII, line 1	7

Part XII Qualifying Distributions (see page 24 of the instructions)

1	Amounts paid (including administrative expenses) to accomplish charitable, etc., purposes:	
a	Expenses, contributions, gifts, etc.—total from Part I, column (d), line 26	1a
b	Program-related investments—total from Part IX-B	1b
2	Amounts paid to acquire assets used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes	2
3	Amounts set aside for specific charitable projects that satisfy the:	
a	Suitability test (prior IRS approval required)	3a
b	Cash distribution test (attach the required schedule)	3b
4	Qualifying distributions. Add lines 1a through 3b. Enter here and on Part V, line 8, and Part XIII, line 4	4
5	Organizations that qualify under section 4940(e) for the reduced rate of tax on net investment income. Enter 1% of Part I, line 27b (see page 24 of the instructions)	5
6	Adjusted qualifying distributions. Subtract line 5 from line 4	6

Note: The amount on line 6 will be used in Part V, column (b), in subsequent years when calculating whether the foundation qualifies for the section 4940(e) reduction of tax in those years.

Form 990-PF (2005)

Part XIII Undistributed Income (see page 24 of the instructions)

	(a) Corpus	(b) Years prior to 2004	(c) 2004	(d) 2005
1 Distributable amount for 2005 from Part XI, line 7				
2 Undistributed income, if any, as of the end of 2004:				
a Enter amount for 2004 only				
b Total for prior years: 20____, 20____, 20____				
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2005:				
a From 2000				
b From 2001				
c From 2002				
d From 2003				
e From 2004				
f Total of lines 3a through e				
4 Qualifying distributions for 2005 from Part XII, line 4: ▶ \$ _____				
a Applied to 2004, but not more than line 2a				
b Applied to undistributed income of prior years (Election required—see page 25 of the instructions)				
c Treated as distributions out of corpus (Election required—see page 25 of the instructions)				
d Applied to 2005 distributable amount				
e Remaining amount distributed out of corpus				
5 Excess distributions carryover applied to 2005 (If an amount appears in column (d), the same amount must be shown in column (a).)				
6 Enter the net total of each column as indicated below:				
a Corpus. Add lines 3f, 4c, and 4e. Subtract line 5				
b Prior years' undistributed income. Subtract line 4b from line 2b				
c Enter the amount of prior years' undistributed income for which a notice of deficiency has been issued, or on which the section 4942(a) tax has been previously assessed				
d Subtract line 6c from line 6b. Taxable amount—see page 25 of the instructions				
e Undistributed income for 2004. Subtract line 4a from line 2a. Taxable amount—see page 25 of the instructions				
f Undistributed income for 2005. Subtract lines 4d and 5 from line 1. This amount must be distributed in 2006				
7 Amounts treated as distributions out of corpus to satisfy requirements imposed by section 170(b)(1)(E) or 4942(g)(3) (see page 25 of the instructions)				
8 Excess distributions carryover from 2000 not applied on line 5 or line 7 (see page 25 of the instructions)				
9 Excess distributions carryover to 2006. Subtract lines 7 and 8 from line 6a				
10 Analysis of line 9:				
a Excess from 2001				
b Excess from 2002				
c Excess from 2003				
d Excess from 2004				
e Excess from 2005				

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Form 990-PF (2005)

Part XIV Private Operating Foundations (see page 26 of the instructions and Part VII-A, question 9)

- 1a If the foundation has received a ruling or determination letter that it is a private operating foundation, and the ruling is effective for 2005, enter the date of the ruling ▶
 b Check box to indicate whether the organization is a private operating foundation described in section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5)

	Pnor 3 years				(e) Total
	Tax year (a) 2005	(b) 2004	(c) 2003	(d) 2002	
2a Enter the lesser of the adjusted net income from Part I or the minimum investment return from Part X for each year listed					
b 85% of line 2a					
c Qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 for each year listed					
d Amounts included in line 2c not used directly for active conduct of exempt activities					
e Qualifying distributions made directly for active conduct of exempt activities. Subtract line 2d from line 2c					
3 Complete 3a, b, or c for the alternative test relied upon.					
a "Assets" alternative test—enter:					
(1) Value of all assets					
(2) Value of assets qualifying under section 4942(j)(3)(B)(i)					
b "Endowment" alternative test—enter $\frac{1}{2}$ of minimum investment return shown in Part X, line 6 for each year listed					
c "Support" alternative test—enter:					
(1) Total support other than gross investment income (interest, dividends, rents, payments on securities loans (section 512(a)(5)), or royalties)					
(2) Support from general public and 5 or more exempt organizations as provided in section 4942(j)(3)(B)(ii)					
(3) Largest amount of support from an exempt organization					
(4) Gross investment income					

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Part XV Supplementary Information (Complete this part only if the organization had \$5,000 or more in assets at any time during the year—see page 26 of the instructions.)

- 1 Information Regarding Foundation Managers:
 a List any managers of the foundation who have contributed more than 2% of the total contributions received by the foundation before the close of any tax year (but only if they have contributed more than \$5,000). (See section 507(d)(2).)
 b List any managers of the foundation who own 10% or more of the stock of a corporation (or an equally large portion of the ownership of a partnership or other entity) of which the foundation has a 10% or greater interest.

2 Information Regarding Contribution, Grant, Gift, Loan, Scholarship, etc., Programs:

Check here if the organization only makes contributions to preselected charitable organizations and does not accept unsolicited requests for funds. If the organization makes gifts, grants, etc. (see page 26 of the instructions) to individuals or organizations under other conditions, complete items 2a, b, c, and d.

- a The name, address, and telephone number of the person to whom applications should be addressed:
 b The form in which applications should be submitted and information and materials they should include:
 c Any submission deadlines:
 d Any restrictions or limitations on awards, such as by geographical areas, charitable fields, kinds of institutions, or other factors:

Form 990-PF (2005)

Part XV Supplementary Information (continued)

3 Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment

Recipient Name and address (home or business)	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution	Amount
a Paid during the year				
Total				3a
b Approved for future payment				
Total				3b

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Search for Charities, Online Version of Publication 78 Search Results

Organization

Name Includes

Carib Charities

At least one of the words

All of the words

Location

City

State All...

Country USA

Deductibility Code

Deductibility Code All...

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Name ▲

Carib News Charities Inc.

City
New York

State
NY

Country
USA

Code
4
[« Prev | 1-1 | Next »](#)

09-6333 0107.1



Deductibility Code

Publication 78 uses a coding system to identify each organization listed by type and limitation on deductibility of charitable contributions to the organization. The code(s) displayed depend(s) on the code for which the organization qualifies. In cases where an organization has multiple deductibility codes, only the definition for each applicable deductibility code is displayed.

Code	Meaning
4	A private foundation, generally with a 30% deductibility limitation.

Close

Exhibit 9

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative of IBM, Vice President Market Development, IBM
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: May 8, 2009
Location: IBM Offices, Washington, D.C.
Participants: Leo Wise
Beth Horton
Lisa Palluconi, Counsel for Government Programs for IBM
Adrienne G. Rhone, Director Governmental Programs

Summary: The Representative of IBM is the Vice President of Market Development for IBM. She was interviewed pursuant to Reviews 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. The Representative of IBM helped arrange IBM's participation at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008; she also participated at the event. We requested an interview with the Representative of IBM and she consented to an interview. The Representative of IBM made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. The Representative of IBM was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and she signed a written acknowledgement of the warning.
2. She attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008.
3. She attended the conference to extend IBM to areas that were not currently being served. She focuses on the Caribbean because of her division at IBM which is women and minorities. The Caribbean is an underdeveloped business unit for IBM.

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4. She first attended the conference in 2004, as a participant, to see if the conference would be a good fit for IBM to participate at as a sponsor.
5. IBM was an entry level sponsor in '05.
6. She dealt with Faye Rodney on conference matters.
7. After her attendance in '05, she received a thank you letter signed by the Rodneys that asked IBM to be a sponsor at the '06 conference.
8. IBM participated at the '05, '06, '07 and '08 conference.
9. The Rodneys continued their prior practice and sent a thank you letter with a request for sponsorship after the '07 conference for IBM to participate at the '08 conference.
10. The letter was sent to the Operations Executive and the decision to participate was decided as a team. Colin Ward, with ENI Systems, is one of IBM's business partners who also went to the conference.
11. The letter is the first communication regarding the conference.
12. After the letter is received, the team manager negotiates participation at the conference. Negotiations included timing of sessions (day/time). She requested Friday, right before or right after lunch, for the IBM session. It was important to have attendance by individuals interested in technology.
13. She also agreed to moderate the women's breakfast sponsored by Macy's.
14. The team manager would have worked with the Rodneys regarding the break-out sessions.
15. IBM controlled its own content for the session(s).
16. The first year IBM sponsored the conference, the sponsorship level was \$10,000. IBM sponsored the conference the following year at \$15,000, and in '08 the sponsorship went up to \$20,000 after IBM received a request from Faye Rodney for an increase. The Representative of IBM initially counter-offered \$18,000 but agreed to the \$20,000 at the urging of Ms. Rodney.
17. IBM has a methodical way of approving conference sponsorships. The letter from the Rodneys was received in July.

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18. She approved the check for the purchase order and released the check. Carib would have received the check in August or September.
19. After the check is released, she and the business partner collaborate on the content of session.
20. She and the business partner attended the conference.
21. She has only seen the Rodneys at the conference. She has been invited to other events but has not accepted the invitations.
22. She received a call from Mr. Rodney about the article on the conference.
23. She had no knowledge of the Foundation until this matter.
24. She understood Carib News to be the sponsor.
25. The \$20,000 level of sponsorship is low for IBM in general. However, it is worth the presence and branding for small the small business unit practice.
26. She thought IBM's sponsorship was of the conference, she did not know the Foundation existed until this issue arose. Her department does not give to non-profit organizations, only to businesses.
27. The only parameters placed on the money for the conference was with respect to time slots and length of the sessions.
28. She tells her team her preferences and the team works out the specifics with Carib.
29. She does not recall seeing a specific document that listed the various levels of sponsorship.
30. Carib News provides the framework for the conference. Then she typically tells Carib what she wants and what they will pay. She was aware from the signage that other companies were larger sponsors.
31. She arrived at the conference on Thursday and attended the opening reception. She attended a reception on Friday that was hosted by Citi and a breakout session.
32. She noticed names of entities on the agenda from the web that she knew were not at the conference.

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33. She noted that the agenda also listed her breakout session on Saturday which was inaccurate. Her session was on Friday, so she knew the agenda could not have been the final agenda.
34. She seemed to recall seeing the agenda that was submitted to Standards. She noted that the 12:00pm session was accurate, but that she did not believe that the breakout listed on Saturday was accurate.
35. She attended the Macy's breakfast on Saturday morning because it is a popular event. She noted who was on the breakfast panel and who was not (names were listed on agenda). Michelle Patterson did not speak, Burnice Johnson was not on the panel and she was not sure if she even attended the conference.
36. She saw several of the Members who attended the conference. She was on the same flight as Representative Payne. She spoke to Representative Rangel at the reception. Representative Kilpatrick was on a panel with her. And Representative Thompson road to an off-sight event with her. She was sure that she spoke to Delegate Christensen. And she spoke to Sheila Jackson Lee at the awards night.
37. The off-sight event was held at a separate hotel, it included local talent and a comedienne.
38. She stated that Members did not attend the breakout sessions.
39. She had a conversation with Rep. Thompson regarding the election.
40. She left the conference on Sunday morning by 7:00am.
41. She spoke with her team after the article regarding the conference came out.
42. She also called Mr. Rodney after she saw the article; she stated that he told her that there was an investigation and assured her that he had done all that he was supposed to do and that he wanted to keep her as a sponsor.
43. She understood sponsor to be financial sponsor of the conference. She assumed all of the companies whose logos appeared on the banner were sponsors. She assumed Carib News organized the conference.
44. She was not aware of how funding for the conference was handled. She assumed the payment from IBM went to pay for her breakout session and collateral expenses for the session.

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45. Her registration fee was part of the sponsorship. She paid for her room and all travel costs.
46. There were less than 300 people at the conference.
47. When she registered for the conference, she received a badge that allowed access to buffets during the meetings.
48. The registration fee for the conference in '05 was \$750.00.
49. She was not aware of the '08 registration fee.

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: 5/8/08 _____

For Office Use:

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 10

09-6333 0115

Susan A. Sullivan
Verizon Foundation
Director - Strategic Planning & Partnerships



Verizon Foundation
One Verizon Way
Bldg 6, 3rd Flr South
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

November 25, 2008

Mr. Karl B. Rodney
Chairman & CEO
Carib News Charities, Inc.
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

Dear Mr. Rodney:

On behalf of the Verizon Foundation, it is a pleasure to present the enclosed check for \$35,000.00 to Carib News Charities, Inc. in support of the 13th Annual Carib News Multi-National Business Conference - November 6-9, 2008.

Under the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, Verizon Communications must receive a written receipt from all organizations to which it makes a charitable contribution. Therefore, please complete and return the enclosed form acknowledging this gift within two weeks of receipt.

Verizon Foundation is delighted to support Carib News Charities, Inc. and we wish to thank you and the organization for your dedication and contribution to our communities.

Please recognize our contribution as coming from "Verizon Communications."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Sullivan".

SS/ah

Enclosures

cc: Patrick Gaston
Albert Browne

09-6333 0116

VZ-OCE 0001

INVOICE NUMBER	INVOICE DATE	DESCRIPTION	GROSS	DISCOUNT	NET AMOUNT
00394421-00003064	11/17/2008	006-13TH ANNUAL MULTI-NATIONAL	35,000.00		35,000.00
			Total	\$35,000.00	0.00
Check No.	Check Date	Vendor No.	Handling Code	Questions? Call 916/357-3270 BU APCRP	
0002756	11/21/2008	0000011038	FN		

PAGE 1 of 1

FOLD ALONG PERFORATED DOTTED LINE & REMOVE CHECK

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS MULTIPLE FRAUD DETERRENT SECURITY FEATURES - SEE REVERSE

verizon
P.O. Box 2200
Folsom, CA 95763-2200

Wachovia Bank, National Association
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Date 11/21/2008

0002756

88-166
531

Thirty five thousand and 00/100 Dollars
PAY CARIB NEWS CHARITIES, INC.
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLR.
NEW YORK, New York 10018

\$ 35,000.00

Catherine J. Webster

VOID SIX MONTHS AFTER ISSUE DATE

⑈000 2756⑈ ⑆053 10 1 56 1⑆ 2079900572609⑈

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR OPENING INSTRUCTIONS

verizon
P.O. Box 2200
Folsom, CA 95763-2200

PRESORTED
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SACRAMENTO, CA
PERMIT NO. 98

CARIB NEWS CHARITIES, INC.
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLR.
NEW YORK, New York 10018

09-6333 0117

VZ-OCE 0002

Acknowledgment of Charitable Contribution

IMPORTANT: Please acknowledge the enclosed charitable contribution by completing and returning this form. Donors cannot deduct contributions unless they are acknowledged in this manner and a failure to return this form in a timely manner may make you ineligible for future contributions by Verizon Foundation.

1. I hereby acknowledge the Verizon Foundation 2008 contribution of:
\$35,000.00
for 13th Annual Multi-National Business Conference - November 6-9, 2008.

(or describe property or services other than money received)

Received on (date):

Date of check: 11/21/08

2. Please indicate whether or not any goods or services were provided by your organization in consideration for this contribution (e.g., the value of food, beverage, ticket or entertainment at a fundraising event):

Yes No

If YES, please describe what was provided and give a good faith estimate of the value to the goods or services, understanding that the amount of the contribution that is deductible as a charitable contribution is limited to the excess of money and the value of property contributed over the value of the goods and services provided by the charity.

Description:

Est. Value: \$

3. The information above is provided for the purpose of complying with IRS reporting requirements and is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that penalties may be imposed by the IRS on charities that fail to make the required disclosure or for making a disclosure that is inaccurate or incomplete.

Name:

Title:

Organization: Carib News Charities, Inc.

Organization Tax I.D.#: 133632050vz

Signature:

Date:

Please return to:

Anita Coleman-Hunt
Verizon Foundation One Verizon Way, VC63S427
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Telephone: 908-559-3516

Fax: 908-630-2660

09-6333 0118

VZ-OCE 0003

Acknowledgment of Charitable Contribution

IMPORTANT: Please acknowledge the enclosed charitable contribution by completing and returning this form. Donors cannot deduct contributions unless they are acknowledged in this manner and a failure to return this form in a timely manner may make you ineligible for future contributions by Verizon Foundation.

1. I hereby acknowledge the Verizon Foundation 2008 contribution of:
\$35,000.00
for 13th Annual Multi-National Business Conference - November 6-9, 2008.

(or describe property or services other than money received)

Received on (date): 11/26/08 Date of check: 11/21/08

2. Please indicate whether or not any goods or services were provided by your organization in consideration for this contribution (e.g., the value of food, beverage, ticket or entertainment at a fundraising event):
 Yes No

If YES, please describe what was provided and give a good faith estimate of the value to the goods or services, understanding that the amount of the contribution that is deductible as a charitable contribution is limited to the excess of money and the value of property contributed over the value of the goods and services provided by the charity.

Description:

Registration + Conference Meal Plan

Est. Value: \$ 1300.00

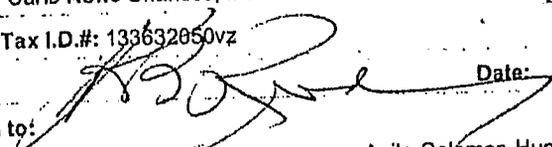
3. The information above is provided for the purpose of complying with IRS reporting requirements and is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that penalties may be imposed by the IRS on charities that fail to make the required disclosure or for making a disclosure that is inaccurate or incomplete.

Name: KARL B. RODNEY

Title: PUBLISHER / CEO

Organization: Carib News Charities, Inc.

Organization Tax I.D.#: 133632050vz

Signature: 

Date: 12/3/08

Please return to:

Anita Coleman-Hunt
Verizon Foundation One Verizon Way, VC63S427
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Telephone: 908-559-3516

Fax: 908-630-2660

09-6333 0119

VZ-OCE 0004

Exhibit 11

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: March 23, 2009
Location: Verizon Offices, Washington, DC
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy
Beth Horton
David Kass, Assistant General Counsel Compliance
James C. Wilson, Vice President and Associate General Counsel Compliance

Summary: Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation is the President and the Strategic Director for Philanthropy of the Verizon Foundation. He was interviewed pursuant to Reviews 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation participated at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008. We requested an interview with Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and he consented to an interview. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning, signed a written acknowledgement of the warning
2. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation is currently the President of the Verizon Foundation ("the Foundation") and Strategic Director for Philanthropy. His duties

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involve budget planning and implementation and governance for the foundation.

Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation has significant decision-making authority over grants issued by the foundation. He approves all grants in excess of \$25,000 and all grants funded more than two years in a row. He has been with the foundation and acting as President for the past five years.

3. The Foundation is funded through a corpus donated by Verizon and through public donations under Verizon Reads, a program that is offered as part of customer billing statements. The Foundation approves approximately 2,900 grants (totaling 67 million) through a competitive loan application process. The Foundation's online loan application process has specific approval requirements, including a quarterly "impact report."
4. The Foundation funded the Carib News Foundation for the first time in 2008, the grant was issued to provide funding for the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference ("the Conference"). Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation approved the Carib News Foundation grant. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was the Foundation's contact person for the Conference. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation did not interact with Karl Rodney or anyone at Carib News regarding the Foundation's participation at the Conference. Both Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation attended the conference. Mr. Rodney invited Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation to speak at the Conference and subsequently applied for a grant from the Foundation.
5. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and Mr. Rodney are both members of the board of the Foundation for the University of the West Indies. The two men interacted at board meetings four times per year. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he may also have spoken to Mr. Rodney 1-2 other times prior to the Conference regarding how the Foundation could showcase its Thinkfinity program. He also stated that he may have spoken to Mr. Rodney once after receiving his letter of invitation for the Conference. He does not recall Mr. Rodney "pitching" the conference to him. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation would not have participated at the Conference unless he could speak on educational issues. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation believed the Conference would be a good opportunity to showcase the Foundation's Thinkfinity program.
6. Mr. Rodney was aware of the Foundation's educational work through his interaction with Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation at board meetings for the Foundation of the University of West Indies. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that while

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he had spoken with Mr. Rodney regarding the Thinkfinity program, he did not make any type of informal commitment to fund the Conference.

7. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation believed that there were three levels of sponsorship for the Conference, the highest being \$50,000 and the lowest being \$25,000. However, he does not recall seeing any specific document(s) setting out the different levels of sponsorship. He stated that he was not interested in sponsorship at the \$50,000 level but later decided on a \$35,000 grant donation. When asked what the Foundation received at the Conference for the \$35,000, Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated signage and visibility. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation often provides such support for conferences, including the NAACP conference and National Urban League Conference.
8. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was provided 3 venues at the Conference to speak about the Thinkfinity program. The Foundation believed participation at the Conference would provide exposure to English speaking Caribbean individuals who have connections to universities in New York.
9. The Foundation is required to issue grants only to 501(c)(3) entities. The Foundation could not make a donation to a corporation. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was somewhat familiar with the Carib News paper; he has been featured in the paper and Verizon has advertised in the paper. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was not aware of Carib News Charities until the entity applied for a grant. He believed Carib News Charities was the same entity as Carib News Foundation. He is not aware of any other work the Carib News Charities/Foundation is involved in other than the conference. Mr. Rodney did not talk about the Carib News Charities/Foundation at board meetings.
10. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation arrived at the Conference on Thursday afternoon and departed on Saturday morning. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he went to make his speech and promptly left the event. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation spoke 3 times on Friday; he was acknowledge at the welcome event on Friday morning and he participated in a demonstration on Thinkfinity in the afternoon. It is not clear from Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation's remarks what other time he spoke at the Conference. He was invited to speak on Saturday but he did not feel that an extra day was necessary.
11. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation recalled seeing and speaking to Congressman Rangel. The Congressman mentioned Alltel and told him to remind his CEO to keep in mind the needs of the minority community. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation

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stated that he had no other contact with Members at the Conference. He did not know Delegate Christenson, Congressman Thompson, Congressman Payne and was not sure whether he saw Congresswoman Kilpatrick (he was not sure who she is). He does recall that one lady stated that she would love to see the Thinkfinity program in her state. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was accompanied by Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation 90% of the time he was at the Conference; he was not aware of any contact between Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and any Members.

12. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation received an advance copy of the agenda for the conference. The copy indicated that the Foundation was scheduled for two days of activities. He requested that the Saturday meetings be canceled or moved to Friday. He had not seen the agenda that Mr. Rodney submitted to the Ethics Committee for travel approval. He stated that advance copies of the agenda were common, most organizations provided the same level of detail with other conferences. He believed that he had seen more than one copy of the agenda. The agendas that were sent to him focused on the Foundation's participation and not the entire conference.
13. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was asked if it was typical to have an agenda that listed speakers without identifying their employer/affiliations. He was not sure and didn't remember if the drafts he had seen included his title; he was more concerned with having a sense of what he would be doing at the Conference.
14. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney prior to the Conference to cancel the programs he was slated to speak at on Saturday (this was his 3rd call regarding the Conference – 1st call was regarding invitation, 2nd call was to discuss his participation, 3rd was to cancel Saturday programs). Mr. Rodney was receptive to Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation's request and the Saturday program was cancelled.
15. The Foundation paid all travel expenses for Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation. He did not see the check the Foundation issued for the Conference or the confirmation letter from Mr. Rodney. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation met with Mr. Rodney following the conference at a board meeting for the Foundation for the University of West Indies. He also had breakfast with Mr. Rodney at which time they briefly discussed the Conference. According to Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation, Mr. Rodney was upset over the New York Post article regarding the Conference. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Mr. Rodney felt the article was misleading and that he had done everything that he was supposed to do

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regarding receiving approval from the Ethics Committee. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he and Mr. Rodney did not spend much time speaking about the matter. He felt that Mr. Rodney wanted him to know that he was diligent about following rules. When asked if he knew what rules Mr. Rodney was speaking about, Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he did not know which rules he was referring to.

16. Prior to his work with the Foundation, Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was with Government Affairs with Verizon, his former position did not involve lobbying. His position involved Strategic Alliance, he was responsible for working with non-profits across the country. He dealt with policy issues regarding universal service. He did not interact with regulators.
17. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation met with Eric Eve with Citi 2-3 weeks prior to our interview, they were both attending a meeting with the head of the NAACP. He did not speak to Mr. Eve about the Conference although they did speak about scrutiny on Citi related to TARP funding. He has not had any contact with the Representative of Citi from Citi.

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: 3/23/09

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Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 12

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OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: March 23, 2009
Location: Verizon Offices, Washington, DC
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy
Beth Horton
David Kass, Assistant General Counsel Compliance
James C. Wilson, Vice President and Associate General Counsel Compliance

Summary: Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation is the National Program Director for the Verizon Foundation and Vice President for Education & Technology for Verizon. He was interviewed pursuant to Reviews 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222.

Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation helped arrange the Verizon Foundation's participation at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008; he also accompanied Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation to the event. We requested an interview with Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and he consented to an interview. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning, signed a written acknowledgement of the warning

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2. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation is currently the National Program Director for the Verizon Foundation ("the Foundation") and Vice President for Education & Training for Verizon. He works on educational literacy and technology innovations for the Foundation, 80% of his time is spent on Thinkfinity. He is the only person with an operational role in the program.
3. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation helped arrange the Verizon Foundation's participation at 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference ("the Conference") in 2008; he also accompanied Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation to the event.
4. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation reviews repeat grant requests for the Foundation. When asked how the Carib News Foundation request came to his desk he stated that it was a result of conversations with Karl Rodney and Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation. He was not sure which conversation occurred first. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was invited to speak at the Conference and either simultaneously or immediately after Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation received the invitation, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney.
5. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes that he spoke with Mr. Rodney in person at a meeting for the Foundation for the University of the West Indies. Mr. Rodney inquired about the application for the grant for the Conference. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation recalled Mr. Rodney stating that he had spoke with Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and that he believed the Conference would be a good fit for the Foundation and would provide a good opportunity to communicate the Foundation's program Thinkfinity.
6. The Verizon Foundation also supports the Foundation for the University of the West Indies. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation has interacted with Mr. Rodney regarding the Foundation for the University of the West Indies.
7. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation also had previous interactions with Mr. Rodney at dinner and business meetings related the American Fund and to the publication of articles on the Foundation's Thinkfinity program.
8. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation will have been with the Foundation 3 years in October.

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9. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes he began talking with Mr. Rodney about the Conference sometime in the summer. He spoke with Mr. Rodney about the grant application. He described to Mr. Rodney the cyber grant process and explained what needed to be provided in the grant application. The system requires applicants to be 501 (c)(3) entities.
10. The head of Governance and Compliance for Verizon verifies whether applicant is a registered 501(c)(3). A grant request from a non 501 (c)(3) would be removed from the system; the request would not be forwarded to Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation. The Foundation's grant approval process is formal. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he could show a specific interest in a proposal but could not give any type of commitment to an applicant.
11. Mr. Rodney would be required to provide a deck of the '07 conference, a description of the purpose of the conference and a tentative agenda for the cyber application.
12. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney approximately 8-10 weeks prior to the conference at which time they discussed the level of sponsorship the Foundation was interested in funding.
13. Mr. Rodney described 3 levels of sponsorship to Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that this was typical of corporate sponsorships at other conferences.
14. Mr. Rodney offered the Foundation a \$50,000 sponsorship, which was the gold level. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes there was also a platinum level at \$75,000. He believes that Mr. Rodney showed him a 2007 deck with 3 levels (platinum at \$75,000, gold at \$50,000, and silver at \$25,000) prior to a scheduled interview of Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation.
15. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation explained to Mr. Rodney that the Foundation wished to negotiate a level of funding other than what was being offered. The amount of \$35,000 was decided upon by the Foundation.
16. When asked what the Foundation would receive for its funding, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that they would receive signage but that the Foundation was not specifically interested in a "quid pro quo" reciprocation, the Foundation merely wanted to disseminate information about its Thinkfinity program. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation does not do business in the Caribbean.

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17. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation made an introductory speech but that he was not sure whether the speech was included in the Foundation's sponsorship level; the speech was not pre-set in the 2007 sponsorship deck.
18. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney approximately once a week for 6-7 weeks prior to the conference to discuss Verizon's participation/logistics/capacity for web casts at the conference – contact included phone calls and emails. Contact increased as conference approached.
19. When asked how Verizon decided on \$35,000 sponsorship, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he received a call from the Carib staff regarding the conference. The Foundation was asked to sponsor at the \$50,000 level, a \$35,000 counter-offer was made to Mr. Rodney, which he accepted.
20. Conversations regarding sponsorship levels began about 8-10 weeks prior to the conference with the final dollar figure being determined approximately 2 weeks prior to the conference.
21. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Patricia with Carib regarding sponsorship, she thought the Foundation was sponsoring at the \$50,000, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation explained that the amount was \$35,000. When asked if Karl Rodney was upset with the sponsorship level, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation answered that he was not upset.
22. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation worked on the conference before Carib submitted application for funding which he stated was not unusual.
23. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he saw early drafts of the agenda prior to the conference, and then saw final draft at conference.
24. An early draft was shared with him in order for him to staff and notify Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation of his speaking times.
25. He did not recall seeing any affiliation information on the early draft, he believes affiliations might have appeared on final draft. He did ask that any information be included on final draft after reviewing the earlier version.
26. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation prepared 2 versions of the Foundation's role at the conference.

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27. The topics for the conference were decided through dialog between himself and Karl Rodney with some prior comments from Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation. Mr. Rodney was aware of the Thinkfinity program. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation suggested web casts.
28. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation thought that Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and Mr. Rodney framed the Foundation's participation at the conference.
29. Town Hall event was Mr. Rodney's idea.
30. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes that Mr. Rodney was trying to bring together various corporate interests to create a dialogue about social and economic issues that would benefit both the Caribbean and the U.S.
31. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Carib News Foundation was the only charitable entity that he was aware of, it was the listed entity in the grant application.
32. The question arose as to who sponsored conference, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he was aware that Carib News was a for-profit entity, so he asked who was the sponsor. If the sponsor was Carib News, the Foundation could not participate as a sponsor.
33. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he did not see the check that went to the Conference, it would have been generated and sent through the internal system.
34. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation did not recall seeing the name Carib News Charities Inc.
35. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation saw an early draft of the grant application but does not recall seeing the final version. He was not responsible for final approval.
36. Kathy Browne, Senior VP for Corporate Responsibility would have approved the grant.
37. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spent 2.5 days at the conference, he arrived on Thursday evening, participated at the conference on Friday and departed on Sunday.
38. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation participated in the welcome remarks on Friday morning, the plenary session, and in a roundtable meeting with educational ministers.
39. Mr. Rodney arranged these meetings, the webcast did not take place.

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40. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation did not attend the conference on Saturday or Sunday. He also left the hotel after the Foundation completed its presentations.
41. When asked about the Town Hall meeting, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Karl Rodney suggested that the Foundation speak about the Thinkfinity program, the opening remarks framework was also suggested by Mr. Rodney, Mr. Eve was to give introductory remarks and then Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was to speak.
42. There was a back and forth discussion about the plenary session between Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and Mr. Rodney to determine what role the Foundation would play in conjunction with the President of Medgar Evers College. The topic was technology supporting education.
43. There was no discussion regarding scheduling sessions to benefit US companies.
44. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he did not have any contact with Members of Congress other than a possible introductory handshake.
45. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation saw Representatives Kilpatrick, Rangel and the former head of the NAACP at the conference, along with other governmental officials from other countries. He also recalled seeing Delegate Christensen and Representative Payne. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation did not know Representative Thompson.
46. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation interacted with Mr. Rodney after the conference to discuss the American Fund and the University of the West Indies. He did not discuss the conference with Mr. Rodney.
47. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes that he may have received a thank you letter from Mr. Rodney for participating at the conference.
48. He did not see the contribution-sponsorship letter.
49. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was aware of Mr. Rodney's Foundation, and the fact that it sponsored the conference. He also believed Mr. Rodney's Foundation performed social work for boys and girls club events and that it worked with the American Fund for the University of the West Indies. He was not sure why he felt that Rodney's Foundation was involved with these other events.

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50. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation did not place any restrictions on the funding it provided to the conference through its grant, the use would have been specified in the grant application/guidelines

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

3/23/09.

For Office Use:

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 13



Carib News Foundation
 7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
 Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
 E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

April 04, 2008

Ms. Marilyn Johnson
 VP Marketing Development
 IBM Corporation
 1133 Westchester Avenue
 White Plains, NY 10604

*Copy of Invoice
 - copy of John
 - copy of John*

Dear Ms. Johnson:

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

Your support and that of IBM went a long way to make the conference a success, and has fostered on-going growth in business achievements and impactful policy decisions. We appreciate very much the professionalism and enthusiasm you bring to the Conference with your keen participation. The presence and demonstration of real live "IBM Partner" as a result of the conference is a powerful testimony. We do get concrete results and expressed appreciation of new opportunities.

We can assure you that all the key stakeholders, Members of Congress, Heads and Ministers of Government, Elected Officials, Community and Business Leaders are all aware and appreciative of IBM's participation in this very important mission.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. We know of your interest to deepen the IBM local, regional and global connection, and I know the Conference can achieve that. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

③

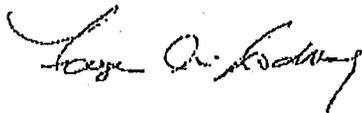
Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail. I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

4

Invoice

CARIB NEWS INC.
 7 WEST 36TH STREET
 8TH FLOOR
 NEW YORK, 10018
 212-944-1991

Date	Invoice #
7/16/2008	45122

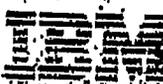
Bill To
Wanda McKenzie JEM 2607 Jesters Court Marietta, GA 30068

Description	Amount
Sponsorship Multi-National Business Conference 2008 TAX ID 13-362060	20,000.00
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;">6</div>	
Total	\$20,000.00

 EXP Pieces: 1/1 ORIGIN: ILE	FM: 13 30 CO TROU 0030 M. Johnson CO ARNOLD LOGISTICS 11400 BURNET RD ALSTIN, TX 78758 UNITED STATES Phone: 512-286-2550 To: NEWYORK CARIB NEWS, INC. FAYE RODNEY 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR NEWYORK, NY 10018 UNITED STATES TEL: 212-944-1991
	Description: IBN check Weight: Letter Date: 2008-10-08 DHL standard terms and conditions apply.


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WAYBILL: 2928725550
 (Non-Regulation)

 International Business Machines Corporation 19701 North St. Elmhurst, New York 11370-8563	Check Number: 50-837 122877721
To the order of: NEW YORK CARIB NEWS 7 W 36TH ST 8TH FL NEW YORK NY 10018 UNITED STATES	DATE: 2008/08/08 The sum of Pay: \$ 20,000.00**
P. Morgan Chase Bank Branch: NY 1100	Per: <i>Richard J. Carroll</i> Authorized Signature

0003777521 021304374601825847

7

Exhibit 14

May 15, 2009

MEMORANDUM

VIA FAX TO: 202-226-0997

TO: Omar Ashmawy
FROM: Will Ris
RE: Materials related to Carib News Foundation Conference

At your request, I am faxing you the following documents:

1. The original letter of request for support from Carib News Foundation sent to American Airlines. I assume that they sent the identical letter to other airlines because in paragraph 3, they refer to "Continental" when it should be "American". In any case, they requested a total of 95 tickets for this event. We responded orally and told them the maximum we could provide would be 10.
2. A listing of the 10 tickets that we provided. If you need more detailed records of each individual ticket, I am happy to provide it. But this shows the names and itineraries of all 10 travelers. We provided no other support for the conference except that our group sales office authorized a standard 5 percent discount on tickets for those travelling to the conference - - this is universally available to any group of 10 or more travelling to the same location.

If there is anything else I can help you with, please let me know.



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

June 6, 2008

Mr. Will Ris
Senior Vice President
Government Affairs
American Airlines
1101 17th Street, Suite 600
Washington, DC 20036

(10 First)

Dear Mr. Ris:

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Since Air Transportation is such a vital issue for the Caribbean Region, it is going to be one of the Agenda items in the travel & Tourism sector. Continental's success is vital to the Caribbean region and the US role in world travel; we would expect significant input into any initiatives discussed.

We expect to have elected officials of the US and the Caribbean, Civic Leaders and Business- persons who can influence policies and encourage worthwhile initiatives to be at the Conference. We would welcome American Airlines' participation.

The Host Committee in the Caribbean Region and the Planning Committee in the US have all agreed to honor you with the Conference's prestigious **Marcus Garvey Bridge Builders Award**. Should you agree to accept, we would ask Congressman Charles Rangel and Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson to make the presentation to you.

We are open to our customary barter of tickets for sponsorship levels, and have enclosed a proposed arrangement guide similar to last year.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

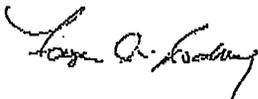
Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail. I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

We are expecting about 20 Members of Congress or more who will be attending along with other Civic Leaders and VIP's. Again, we will position American Airlines as one of the main carriers to the Caribbean transporting the elected officials and celebrities. To help us move the process along we would like to propose the following, that American Airlines participate as a Gold Sponsor of the conference in consideration for which American Airlines would receive the following:

- American Airlines will be recognized as a main sponsor.
- American Airlines name and logo will be included on all printed material.
- American Airlines will be included in all radio and television promotions.
- American Airlines will be in all Internet promotions.
- American Airlines will be a designated sponsor of a main event and/or a workshop with speaking opportunities.
- American Airlines will receive prominent space for display or exhibition.
- American Airlines banners will be displayed in the main conference area
- American Airlines can develop specific promotional materials.

In return for the above, American Airlines will provide *Carib News* with:

- Maximum of fifty (50) roundtrip coach class tickets from the 48 contiguous United States to Antigua. Reservations to be done by *Carib News* and ticketing to be by American Airlines.
- Maximum of thirty-five (35) first-class roundtrip tickets from the 48 contiguous United States to Antigua.
- Maximum of five (5) coach class tickets and five (5) first class tickets to be used for site inspection and conference planning prior to the conference.
- American Airlines will provide group fares for registered attendees. Fare and reservations & ticketing to be negotiated by American Airlines.

Site Inspection is part of the sponsorship package. We do plan to do site inspections in St. Maarten when we will officially announce the Conference and work out broad issues.

CARIBBEANS SMM CONFERENCE 2008

Organization Name	Booking Code	Destination	Ticket	Event Name	Authorizer STA	BR4	Letter Nbr	Expiration Date	RdRbr	Routing	PNR	Traveler Name
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbean SMM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388125	525150	JFK-SMM-JFK	PNR	BODNRY/R
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbean SMM Conference 2008	50648	3237	1141	388126	525150	JFK-SMM-JFK	LUDKQ	BODNRY/R
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbean SMM Conference 2008	50648	3237	1141	388127	525150	JFK-SMM-JFK	LUDKQ	BODNRY/R
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbean SMM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388128	525150	JFK-SMM-JFK	DTNCS	TAYLOR/S
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbean SMM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388129	525150	JFK-SMM-SIU-JFK	DTNCS	BODNRY/R
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbean SMM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388130	525150	JFK-SMM-SIU-JFK	PNRWAX	EVER/E
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	Z	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbean SMM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388131	525150	JFK-SMM-JFK	PNRWAX	EVER/E
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	T	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbean SMM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	412645	538511	JFK-SIU-SMM-JFK	PNR	WILLIAMS/J
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	T	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbean SMM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	412647	538511	DCA-MIA-SMM-NIA-DCA	LWART	SIMMONS/C
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	T	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbean SMM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	412648	538511	JFK-SIU-SMM-JFK	BBQVWZ	DODSON/J

Exhibit 15

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House ID	Registrant Name	Client Name	Filing Year	Filing Period	Lobbyist Full Name
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2006	Year-End	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2006	Year-End	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2006	Year-End	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2007	Mid-Year	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION	2007	Year-End	Caine, Christopher

311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2007	Mid- Year	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2007	Mid- Year	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	1st Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	2nd Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	3rd Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	4th Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2009	1st Quarter	Edington, PJ
311230000	International Business Machines Corporation (IBM)	International Business Machines Corporation (IBM)	2005	Year- End	Caine, Christopher
401290000	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	2008	1st Quarter	None
401290000	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	2008		Last Name 01, First Name 01
401290000	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	2008	3rd Quarter	None

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Client Name	CITI	Search Field	
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Sort

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Secondary Sort Client Name

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Page 1 of 7 Total 132

House ID	Registrant Name	Client Name	Filing Year	Filing Period	Lobbyist Full Name
310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2006	Year-End	Burgeson, Christine
310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2007	Mid-Year	Burgeson, Christine
310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2007	Year-End	Burgeson, Christine
310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2007	Year-End	Burgeson, Christine
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2007	Mid-Year	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2007	Year-End	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	1st Quarter	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	2nd Quarter	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	3rd Quarter	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	4th Quarter	None
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2006	Year-End	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2007	Mid-Year	Snyder, John

316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2007	Year-End	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	1st Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	2nd Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	3rd Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	4th Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2009	1st Quarter	Snyder, John
373770000	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	2007	Mid-Year	Robinson, Ken
373770000	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	2007	Year-End	Robinson, Kenneth

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House ID	Registrant Name	Client Name	Filing Year	Filing Period	Lobbyist Full Name
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2006	Year-End	Davidson, Peter B.
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Mid-Year	Davidson, Peter B.
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Year-End	Davidson, Peter
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	1st Quarter	Davidson, Peter
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	2nd Quarter	Cantrel, Frank
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	3rd Quarter	Cantrel, Frank
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	4th Quarter	Davidson, Peter
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2009	1st Quarter	Cantrel, Frank
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2006	Year-End	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Mid-Year	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Year-End	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	1st	

09-6333 0152

Contributor	Organization	Year	Quarter	Recipient
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	2nd Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	3rd Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	4th Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	2009	1st Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
315720000	Verizon & Its affiliates, except Verizon Wireless	2005	Year-End	Davidson, Peter
315720000	Verizon & Its affiliates, except Verizon Wireless	2006	Mid-Year	Davidson, Peter
352050000	Verizon Wireless	2005	Year-End	Azare, Monica
352050000	Verizon Wireless	2006	Mid-Year	Azare, Monica

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Exhibit 16



BASIC REQUIREMENTS

TO HOST

CARIBBEAN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

- Invitation to host conference to be issued by Prime Minister (Head of Government). This is to facilitate the attendance of several elected officials from the United States, United Kingdom and other countries.
- Prime Minister to be keynote speaker at one of the major events of the conference and participates in the closed door session with attending elected officials.
- Local host committee to be organized with all interested ministers, agencies and associations. The chairman of this committee would be someone designated by the Prime Minister to coordinate all the activities.
- To provide the care and comfort for the VIP's attending i.e.
 - To provide 25 all-inclusive rooms for the VIP's and members of Congress attending.
 - To provide appropriate mode of transportation for VIP's and members of Congress - cars or specialized vans - not buses.
- To be a designated sponsor in one of the categories: *Title, Main or Regular Sponsor* (See Attachment).
- To organize a "Host Country Evening" - The Friday evening, the host country will host at an appropriate location an evening of food, refreshment, cultural presentation and entertainment.
- Provide for local entertainment for the various functions -
 - The Opening Ceremonies
 - The Reception
 - The Gala Dinner
- To assist in Promotion and Publicity of the conference both locally and through international offices and official publications.
- Assist in securing competitive hotel rates.
- Equip and staff conference secretariat.
- Prime Minister to issue invitations along with CARIB NEWS to members of the US Congress, other Prime Ministers and Ministers of Government.
- Participate in the Forum with Members of Congress.
- Arrange tours and activities of interest for VIP's and/or their spouse.

THE NEW YORK
CARIBNEWS
THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10018 (212) 944-1991

August 13, 2008

The Hon. Sarah A. Wescott-Williams
Leader of Government
Government Administration Building
Clem Labega Square, Philipsburg
St. Maarten, N.A.

Hon. Commissioner:

Plans are moving ahead for the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-national Business Conference, November 6-9 in your beautiful country. We have sent out invitations to several Members of Congress, Prime Ministers, Presidents and Premiers, to attend the Conference. A list of those invitees is attached. Senator Hillary Clinton has expressed an interest and her invitation will be forwarded soon. Also see Congressman Rangel's personal note of acceptance.

We wish for you now to send out your invitation to these individuals as previously discussed. A copy of past invitation letter is included. We will continue to do all the follow-up as planning and implementation as agreed to.

We are working on the draft of the program and will be sharing it with you and the Host Committee shortly. We would like to schedule our first Conference meeting by telephone with the Host Committee within the next 10 days, to start going over each area of the Basic requirements list, and to develop some time-line and contact person for each area.

We need to know immediately who on the Host Committee will be handling press and publicity, we can start sending Press Releases and Press updates.

We will be sending regular updates.

Kindest Regards


Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

c.c. Commissioner Roy Marlin
Director of Tourism, Regina LaBega
Marla Chemont



Taking Our Rightful Place In The Sun

09-6333 0156

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CN-000040



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail:

June 25, 2008

Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams
Leader of Government Business
Government Administration Building
Clem Labega Square
Philipsburg, St. Maarten, NA

Dear Commissioner Wescot-Williams:

Plans are coming in place for the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-national Business Conference scheduled for November 6-9 at your invitation to the beautiful country of St. Maarten.

We were very involved with the Conference on the Caribbean held in New York last week with some fifteen Heads of CARICOM Governments, which was a success, but took a large part of our time. All attention is now set for St. Maarten.

We have signed the contract with the Maho Resort and we are in conversation with many of our sponsors. Already we have some important names agreeing to come, including Congressman Charles Rangel and Governor of New York, David Paterson. We are mindful of the issues of interest to St. Maarten and so we have issued invitations to several Members of Congress, Heads of Education and Health institutions. A strong financial sector is expected; already Citibank and HSBC are on board.

There is very strong interest in the conference and all the information about the conference as St. Maarten is now on the website, in print and on radio. The promotion has begun in earnest.

We would now wish to start liaison with the local host committee to coordinate our planning with yours. Could you be kind enough to please identify the committee and the contact person and other information. We would wish that the person would report to you directly or Commissioner Marlin to expedite any matter.

Please find attached ideas for the Theme and some areas of concentration from which we can develop the program. The Host Committee should use the basic requirement as the basis for their planning. We will send a matrix of some time line and arrange for our next planning visit.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

2008 CARIBBEAN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

THEMES

We are suggesting as possible themes, the following:

Please feel free to change, adjust or even new approaches.

CHANGING STRATEGIES TO EMBRACE NEW POSSIBILITIES - THE GLOBAL MARKET

MOVING BEYOND BARRIERS TO A STRATEGY FOR GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

CHANGING STRATEGIES, BUILDING ALLIANCES, FACING NEW REALITIES

A REGION IN TRANSITION - STRATEGY FOR CHANGE, ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS

AREAS OF CONCENTRATION

We are also now shaping the presentations and the workshops and the areas of concentration are some of which were suggested by yourself and Commissioner Marlin:

1) **TOURISM**

- Pre clearance
- Unfunded mandate by the US
- Investment in Tourism
- Health tourism
- Regional co-operation

2) **HEALTH**

- St. Maarten, ideal location for Regional Health Center
- Delivery of health care
- Lifestyle diseases - diabetes, hypertension, obesity
- Health Investment
- Collaboration with US Institutions

3) **EDUCATION**

- Collaboration with US institutions
- Curriculum development
- Presentation of Thinkfinity - high tech tool for teaching
- Initiative between the University of the West Indies and Medgar Evers College



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

To : Host Committee
Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference
cc. Bernard Hunt, Sonesta Maho Beach Resort

From : Karl B. Rodney
CARIB NEWS

Date : October 15, 2008

SUBJECT : Town Hall Meetings

In the interest of organizing successful Town Hall Meetings, and to make program print deadline, we suggest the use of the space available at the Sonesta Maho for those meetings.

We think the participation of the local groups and individuals in these meetings are necessary and productive because of the subject matter. We would therefore urge a strong outreach media program and direct contact to interest groups to ensure success of the Fora.

- Thursday 5:00 – 6:30pm : Healthy Eating and Living
- Friday 4:30 – 6:00pm : Education – Sharing Working Solutions
- Saturday 4:30 – 6:00 pm : Technology

There is a great line up and we may have some additional star power. Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams also suggested she might have additional local speakers for these for a, and we welcome that.

Thanks for your kind cooperation.

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Carib News Foundation

7 West 30th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017

Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: (212) 944-2089

E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

February 8, 2008

Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams
Leader of Government Business
Government Administration Building
Clem Labega Square
Philipsburg, St. Maarten, NA

Dear Commissioner Wescot-Williams:

It is with great pleasure that I wish to inform you that the Planning Committee has selected St. Maarten to host the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, November 6-9, 2008. There was great interest in St. Maarten because of your personal invitation issued in Antigua, and certainly all the other excellent facilities on the island.

We look forward to a great conference and with working with you and your team. We would wish that you appoint the Host Committee as soon as possible so that the real planning will start. We will be proposing some thematic approaches for your consideration, in order to get the right participants and targeted focus.

We have the proposal from the hotels and will be making that selection within the week, after which we can start the promotion. The **SAVE THE DATE** and **VENUE** will be going out to the Members of Congress shortly. We will develop a time line for the other activities.

We are proceeding with the plan and would appreciate the formal letter of invitation.

We are very excited about working with you and St. Maarten again, and we expect a great conference.

Congratulations, and thanks for your kind consideration.

Very Truly Yours,

Faye A. Rodney

President

Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

cc. Marla Chemont, Marketing Assistant

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09-6333 0160



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

January 23, 2008:

Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams
Leader of Government Business
Government Administration Building
Clem Labega Square
Phillipsburg, St. Maarten, NA

Dear Commissioner Wescot-Williams:

Thanks very much for inviting us to St. Maarten to explore the possibility of St. Maarten as the Host Venue for the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, scheduled for November 6-9, 2008.

We had the pleasure of meeting with Commissioner Roy Marlin to discuss the conference, its mission and of course, St. Maarten's priorities to be addressed in the conference. Among the areas discussed were:

- ♦ The Passport issue and its impact on St. Maarten and the Caribbean.
- ♦ The US Pre-clearance option and what are the possibilities
- ♦ Educational collaboration and in-state tuition consideration for students from St. Maarten
- ♦ A major women's initiative at the conference and targeting many large sororities to hold meetings and conventions in St. Maarten
- ♦ The influence on impact of the Congressional delegation on the current constitutional negotiations with the Dutch Government, particularly where the Dutch Government has lobbied these Members on their special interests.
- ♦ An appealing or special role model to address the youth of St. Maarten
- ♦ To conduct community outreach programs involving the wider population in the areas of Health, Education and possibly Technology.

These are areas that we can establish direct linkages with elected officials, professional experts, corporate perspectives and certainly business opportunities.

We were reminded by Ludwig Ouenniche the then President of the Chamber of Commerce, that it was in St. Maarten that the issue of increase of Duty Free Allowance was raised and was subsequently raised to twice the amount within six months, benefiting all the merchants not only in St. Maarten but the Caribbean.

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Carib News Foundation
 7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
 Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
 E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

April 04, 2008

Ms. Marilyn Johnson
 VP Marketing Development
 IBM Corporation
 1133 Westchester Avenue
 White Plains, NY 10604

*Copy of [unclear]
 - copy of [unclear]
 - copy of [unclear]*

Dear Ms. Johnson:

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

Your support and that of **IBM** went a long way to make the conference a success and has fostered on-going growth in business achievements and impactful policy decisions. We appreciate very much the professionalism and enthusiasm you bring to the Conference with your keen participation. The presence and demonstration of real live "**IBM Partner**" as a result of the conference is a powerful testimony. We do get concrete results and expressed appreciation of new opportunities.

We can assure you that all the key stakeholders, Members of Congress, Heads and Ministers of Government, Elected Officials, Community and Business Leaders are all aware and appreciative of **IBM's** participation in this very important mission.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. We know of your interest to deepen the **IBM** local, regional and global connection, and I know the Conference can achieve that. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

3

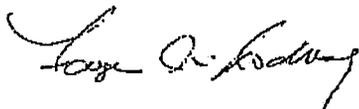
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We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail. I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@mycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

4

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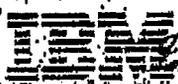
Invoice

Date	Invoice #
7/16/2008	45122

Bill To
Wanda McKenzie IBM 2607 Jesters Court Marietta, GA 30068

Description	Amount
Sponsorship Multi-National Business Conference 2008 TAX ID 13-362060	20,000.00
(6)	
Total	\$20,000.00

		EXP		Pieces: 1/1	
FM: 18 MCO TIR011 0030 M. Johnson C/O ARNOLD LOGISTICS 14400 BURNET RD AUSTIN, TX 78758 UNITED STATES Phone: 512-288-2350		To: NEW YORK CARIB NEWS, INC. FAYE RODNEY 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10018 UNITED STATES		ORIGIN: 1LE POSTCODE: 10018 TEL: 212-944-1941	
Description: IBM check					
Weight: Letter Date: 2008-10-08					
DHL standard terms and conditions apply.					
		JRAC 0T ABH		CAJUS10018	
		WAYBILL: 2928725550		(Non-Negotiable)	

		International Business Machines Corporation 701 New York Street, New York 13760-5503		Check Number: 50-837 0003777521	
Pay to the order of:		DATE: 2008/08/08		The sum of \$*****20,000.00**	
NEW YORK CARIB NEWS 7 W 36TH ST 8TH FL NEW YORK, NY 10018 UNITED STATES		Per: <i>Richard J. Carroll</i> Authorized signature			

0003777521 02130937906018258478

7

Exhibit 17

Registration

From: plouis [plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 11:00 AM
To: 'Kelly Mobley, Dawn'
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,
In response to your e-mail, the answer to your question is NO.
Regards and Thanks for your patience.

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 10:28 AM
To: plouis
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

FYI

From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 2:41 PM
To: plouis
Cc: Kelly Mobley, Dawn; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Louis,

Please explain in more detail your email message below relative to the "sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip." In this regard, do the following entities pay for any of the expenses of the trip for the invited House Members, including roundtrip air transportation costs, lodging costs, meal costs, cost of a particular meal or reception, etc.?

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM

- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:37 AM
To: Olson, Susan
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,

In response to your e-mail:

The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation.

As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program

that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Federally registered lobbyists or foreign agents will not be accompanying the Members or

participating in the program.

Regards,

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 35th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn.KellyMoblely@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill

10/15/2007

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative 1 from Macy's
Review #: 09-6333; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-2222
Date: May 27, 2009
Location: 11 Penn Plaza
New York, NY 10001
Time: 11:10pm to 12:00 p.m. (approximately)
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: Representative 1 from Macy's is the Senior Vice President of Government and Consumer Affairs and Diversity Vendor Development at Macy's, Inc. He was interviewed pursuant to Review 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. We requested an interview with Representative 1 from Macy's and he consented to an interview. Representative 1 from Macy's made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative 1 from Macy's was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. Representative 1 from Macy's signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. [attached]
2. Representative 1 from Macy's met Karl and Faye Rodney in 1996. As a result of the large Caribbean Community in New York City and Macy's commercial interests in the Caribbean region, Representative 1 from Macy's asked Macy's advertizing division to consider the CaribNews newspaper.
3. The first conference he attended was in 1998 in St. Lucia. He attended as a participant. At the time, Macy's was considering a store in Puerto Rico and so Representative 1 from Macy's was especially interested in business in the region. He was impressed by how many government officials from the Caribbean region were present at the conference and by what they had to say about developing relationships with the United States.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

4. In the ensuing years, Macy's became a sponsor. The conference was a place where the company looked for vendors and designers. It was also a place where they could hear from U.S. legislators about their thoughts on the region. It was also a place for Representative 1 from Macy's to connect with U.S. companies who were attending.
5. Macy's first sponsored the conference in 2000. Over the years they have sponsored the event on an annual basis at varying levels, ranging from \$10,000 to \$35,000. As women's issues are particularly important to Macy's, given their clientele, their sponsorship focuses on the conference's "Women's Power Breakfast." The event was described as very lavish. All attendees of the breakfast also get a Macy's tote bag.
6. In 2008, Macy's contribution to the conference was \$35,000 in cash and an in-kind contribution of 400 tote bags. The total value of the in-kind contribution was \$4,620. The money was earmarked specifically for the conference.
7. As a sponsor, Macy's was given the opportunity to have a representative make opening remarks, to have representation at the Women's Power Breakfast, have input into who the speaker at the breakfast will be, and attend the closed door session with Members of Congress and officials from the Caribbean governments. Representative 1 from Macy's did in fact attend the closed door session in 2008. He recalled that other corporate sponsors also attended the meeting, but he could not recall which ones.
8. Representative 1 from Macy's recalled interacting with Representative Payne, Representative Kilpatrick, Representative Thompson, Representative Rangel, and Delegate Christensen. His interactions were all social in nature.
9. Representative 1 from Macy's was not aware of any other events sponsored by or planned by the CaribNews Foundation. With the exception of the conference, he was not aware of any other instances when Macy's supported a CaribNews Foundation event. Given Representative 1 from Macy's position within the company, it is very likely he would know if Macy's had done so.

I prepared this Memorandum of Interview on May 28, 2009 after interviewing Representative 1 from Macy's on May 27, 2009. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with Representative 1 from Macy's on May 27, 2009.

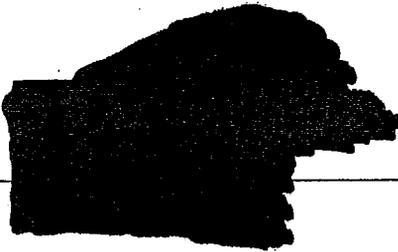
Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: 

Signature : 

Date: 5/27/08

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Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 21

Updated Schedule
for Carib News
PAGE 83

WORKING DRAFT 10/22

12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
Antigua & Barbuda

Thursday, November 8, 2007

12:00noon- 6:00pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -

8:00 - 6:30am - COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Venue - Multi-Purpose Cultural Centre - Ferry Bay, St. John's

Theme - WTO - RULES BASED TRADE & POVERTY REDUCTION

Speakers - Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress
 Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
 Hon. Dr. Errol Cort - Minister of Finance & The Economy

Moderator - Tony Best

6:30-7:30pm - OPENING RECEPTION

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Theme: - CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES

MC: - Judge Sylvia Hinds-Radix

Speakers - Faya A. Rodney - President CARIB NEWS
 Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

7:30 - 9:30 pm -

Theme: - COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Moderator: - Hon. Nick Perry, New York State Assemblyman

Speakers: - Hon. 'Butch' Stewart, Chairman, Sandals
 Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress
 Hon. Harold Lovell - Minister of Tourism & Aviation

10:00pm - 1:00am: - Hospitality Area

Venue: Sandals Grande - Reflective Pool

Friday, November 9, 2007

8:00am - 8:45am BREAKFAST - Buffet Style

9:00am - 6:00pm	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
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9:00am - 10:15am - OPENING CEREMONIES

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Theme: - CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES, COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Remarks:

- Eric Eyer
- Dr. Lowell Lewis, Chief Minister
- Montserrat
- Karen Boylston-Towns
- Ed Goldberg
- Marie Long
- Hazel Dukes - NAACP
- William Thompson, NYC Comptroller
- Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Govt. St. Maarten

Greetings

Speakers: Hon. Errol Cort - Minister of Finance & The Economy
 Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress
 Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Klipatrck - Member of Congress

Ambassador Andrew Young
Hon. Louise Lake Tack - Governor General of Antigua
OR
Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Ribbon Cutting

10:30am - 11:45am - PRESENTATION

Theme: - DEVELOPMENT BANKS, PRIVATE DEBT AND EQUITY

Venue: - Sandals Grande

Chair/Moderator - Dr. Enrique Riggs

Speaker: Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
 Hon. Compton Bourne - President, CDB
 Mr. Milton Lawrence, Chairman Financial Services Corporation
 Mr. Rudolph Carryl
 Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister/Minister of Finance, St. Kitts

10:30 - 11:45am CULTURE - PROMISE & POTENTIAL IN BUSINESS

Remarks :

Speakers: Professor Rex. Nettleford
 Hon. Howard Dotson
 Patrick Payne
 Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Culture

12:00noon - 1:15pm

Theme: - NATIONAL SECURITY : A PRE-CONDITION FOR SUCCESS

Venue : - Sandals Grande

Moderator - Leyland Hazlewood

Remarks: - Reginald Canal

Keynote Speaker Hon. Ronnie Thompson - Member of Congress
 Panelists: - Hon. Dwyer Astaphan, Minister of National Security
 Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
 Hon. Colin V. A. Derrick - Minister of Justice
 Attorney Sanford Rubenstein

12:00noon - 1:15pm

Theme - EDUCATION - U. S AND CARIBBEAN SYNERGIES TO
 OVERCOME CHALLENGES
 Remarks - Colin Ward
 Speakers - Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President Medgar Evers College
 Hon. Donald Payne - Member of Congress
 Hon. Bertrand Joseph, Minister of Education

1:30pm - 2:30pm

- LUNCH
 Theme: - FINANCE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION'S - VALUE
 AND ROLE
 Remarks - Michael Hanigan
 Speakers - Eric Eve - CITI
 Hon. William Thompson, New York City Comptroller

3:00pm - 4:00pm

- ROUND TABLES
IMMIGRATION -
 Venues - Sandals Grande
 Moderator - Dr. Marco Mason

Speakers - Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress
 Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
 Hon. Kendall Stewart - City Council member

DIVERSITY IN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

MACY'S - Outside Vendors

Ed Goldberg
 Cheryl Monroe
 State Senator Kevin Parker
 City Councilmember Inez Dickens

HAITI - IN TRANSFORMATION

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvonne Graham
 Ambassador Andrew Young

PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES

Moderator : Mr. Lance Ogiste
 Hon. Bennie Thompson
 Hon. Dwer Astephan

Venue Sandals Grande

Participant - Preferred Health Partners

Speakers - Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress

Venue

Speaker - Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress ?
CARICOM REE. - TBD

5:00pm - 6:30pm -

Venue: - Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Centre - Ferry Bay

Theme - HEALTH - COMMON ISSUES - PROVEN SOLUTIONS - MOVE
Healthy Eating, Healthy Living

Remarks - Ms. Karen Boykin-Townes

Moderator - Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

Keynote Speakers: - Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis
Hon. Dr. Martin Valdes-Preferred Health Partners
Hon. John Herbert Maginley - Minister of Health, Sports & Youth
Dr. John Palmer
Hon. Diane Watson, Member of Congress

6:30:00pm - 10: 00 pm - HOST COUNTRY EVENING
Hosted by Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer

Venue - Multipurpose Cultural and Exhibition Centre - Ferry Bay

10:00pm - 1:00am - Hospitality Area

Venue: - Santals Grande - Reflection Pool

Saturday, November 10, 2007

8:00am - 10:00am

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom
Theme: " WOMEN AND EMPOWERMENT IN THE DIASPORA

Remarks - Brenda Scott
MC - Marilyn Johnson
Speakers - Hon. Diane Abbott, MP UK
Commissioner Sarah Westcot-Williams,
Hon. Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick, Member of Congress
Hon. Edith Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress
Dr. Martella Maxwell
Ms. Toni Bay
Governor General - Dame Louise Lake Tak - check
Ms. Lucille McEwen, President/CEO HCCI
Commissioner Westcot-Williams, Leader of Government

10:15am - 11:45pm - PRESENTATION

Theme - HEALTH - REAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN UPGRADING
CARE AND DELIVERY

Venue - Sandals Grande
Greeting - Karen Boykin-Towns - Pfizer
Chair/Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham
Keynote - Dr. Dea'hl Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Panelists
 Hon. John Herbert McGinley, Minister of Health
 Dr. Marcia Bayne-Smith
 Dr. Carl Kenel Pierre, Preferred Health Partners

10:15am-11:45am

Theme - TRAVEL & TOURISM EXPANSION -THE DIASPORA AS
 CATALYST

Venue - Sandals Grande

Chair/Moderator - Mr. Lloyd Williams, GHCC

Speakers - Hon. Laura Richardson - Member of Congress
 Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Tourism, Antigua & Barbuda
 Hon. Howard Dotson, Director Schomburg Center

12 noon- 1:15pm - PRESENTATION

Theme - TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION -
 SHARING

Venue: - Sandals Grande

Remarks - Ms. Marie Long

Keynote Speakers: - Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress
 Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress
 Dr. Edmund Mansoor - Member of State
 Dr. Emmanuel Gonsalves

12:00noon - 1:15pm -

Theme - INTEGRATING THE DIASPORA IN BUSINESS - INVESTORS
 MANAGERS, MENTORS & TRAINERS

Venue: - Sandals Grande
 Moderator - Roy Hastick
 Participant - HSBC
 Remarks - Mr. Javier Evans
 Speakers - Hon. Compton Bourne
 Hon. Adolfo Carrion, Bronx Borough President
 Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress
 Hon. Professor Rex Nettleford

1:30 - 2:00 p.m. - LUNCH

Theme - CARIBBEAN TRADE COMPETITIVENESS AND POSITIONING

Venue - Sandals Grande

Remarks - Wallace Ford - Goodworks International

Keynote Speaker - Hon. Billie Miller - Minister of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade
 Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

2:30pm - 6:30pm

Optional

3:00pm - 4:00pm - ROUND TABLE

Venue : Sandals Grande

Round Table #1

Theme : CARIBBEAN - A COMPETITIVE HEALTH CARE DESTINATION

Venue

Remarks : Dr. Lesly Keenissant

Speakers : Dr. Dexter McKenzie
Hon. Yvonne Graham

Round Table#2

Theme - HEMISPHERIC DISASTER FUND

Venue - Sandals Grande

Speakers Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
Mr. Leyland Hazlewood
Mr. Emmanuel Gonsalves

Participant -

Round Table#3

Theme - CLOSING THE GENERATION GAP

Speaker - Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
Karlisa Rodney
Lita Balram
Sabrina Hosang
Wintropo Wellington

Venue - Sandals Grande

Participant -

Round Table #4

Theme : PASSPORT & ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRAINTS ON TOURISM

Venue : Sandals Grande

Speakers : Hon. Harold Lovell - Minister of Tourism
Mr. Lloyd Williams, GHCC
Hon. Darryl Towns, State Assemblyman

5:00pm - 6:30pm - COMMUNITY OUTREACH -

EDUCATION & YOUTH DIRECTION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION

Venue: Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Centre

Moderator: Michael Flanigan

Speakers: Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College

Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Hon. Bertrand Joseph

6:30 - 7:30pm - GALA RECEPTION

Venue: Sandals Grande

Speaker: Hon. Stephanie Tubbs-Jones, Member of Congress

Hon. Billie Miller, Minister of Foreign Affairs,

Minister of Government ... Antigua

Theme:

7:30 - 10:00 pm : GALA DINNER & AWARDS

Theme :

Venue : Sandale Grande - Main Ballroom

Speakers : Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress
 Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Keynote Speaker : Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer
 Presentation of the Marcus Garvey "Bridge Builder" Awards

Hospitality Area

10:30pm - 1:00am

Venue:

Sunday, November 11, 2007

8:30 am - 10:00am - POWER BREAKFAST

Theme - UNDERSTANDING THE SPIRITUAL ROOTS AND
 MAKING IT WORK

Celebrant - Ed Goldberg
 Lowell Hawthorne
 Caribbean person - TBD

Selection

Theme:

Selection:

10/16/07

Exhibit 22

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office
Review #: 09-6333; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-2222
Date: May 27, 2009 and May 28, 2009
Location: Washington, DC (via telephone on May 27, 2009) and at Rayburn HOB 354 (on May 28, 2009)
Time: 4:10pm to 5:30 p.m. (approximately) and 3:30pm to 4:00pm (approximately)
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office is currently the chief of staff of Representative Charles Rangel, a Member of the United States House of Representatives representing the Fifteenth District of New York. He was interviewed pursuant to Review 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. We requested an interview with Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and he consented to an interview. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office's counsel was present. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. [attached]
2. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not attend the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference although he received an invitation. In response to a Request for Information by OCE, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office looked for Representative Rangel's invitation to the conference, but could not find it. He had thought Representative Rangel had received one, but because he could not find the invitation he now thinks that Representative Rangel did not receive one.

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3. Representative Rangel could have been invited orally as he has been attending the conference for years and was seen almost as a partner. He attends the conference because he is dedicated to strengthening the relationships between the Caribbean community, the African-American community of New York City and in general, and the United States.
4. The question of whether Representative Rangel would attend the conference in 2008 was a difficult one because of the negative press he had received throughout the preceding summer. Representative Rangel was cautious about attending because he didn't want to be a target for additional negative publicity, but Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and others on the Member's staff argued that he should go to the conference. They argued that if Representative Rangel did not attend he would be rejecting the friends with whom he helped build the conference and that the Member had to stand up and do the right thing despite the possible negative publicity.
5. Ultimately, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and his staff persuaded the Member to attend. Representative Rangel decided to keep a low profile and, unlike in past years, staff would not attend the conference with the Member.
6. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that the CaribNews Foundation invited the Member. The CaribNews Foundation is the charitable arm of the newspaper. When the rules changed in 2007 and corporations could not be involved as before – i.e. direct contributions to the conference – there was “talk” about how to do the conference in light of the new rules.
7. According to Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office, there was “talk” that the Rodneys needed an entity to create a common fund so that the corporate money could be used to pay for the conference and that the CaribNews Foundation could be used for that purpose.
8. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office initially stated that he did not remember how he was aware of this “talk.” He stated that part of it was his reading of the rules and the supplemental material about how things get done. He then stated that “we” celebrated when Representative Susan Tubbs-Jones was made the chair of the Standards Committee in 2007 because she would try to create a way for Members of Congress to continue to attend the conference. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office then stated that he was made aware of the “talk” through the Rodneys and that the Rodneys told Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office that Representative Tubbs-Jones was going to have her counsel, Dawn Kelly-Mobley, find a way to make the conference work. The Members would have a few more hoops to go through but “we” would find a

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- way. Representative Tubbs-Jones would let Ms. Mobley know the conference was a priority and tell her to make it possible. Representative Tubbs-Jones made Ms. Mobley the point of contact on the issue of the conference.
9. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that Representative Rangel also mentioned that Representative Tubbs-Jones told him something similar. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that there was talk about "keeping the conference going." He also stated that "They gave us the framework to keep the conference going." "They" referred to Ms. Mobley and Representative Tubbs-Jones.
 10. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember any specific conversations with Ms. Mobley, but he would have had them because he would have wanted to make sure he followed her advice. He stated that the 2007 conversations about Standards Committee finding a way to keep the conference going may have also been with Patricia Louis, the Rodneys office manager.
 11. Regarding the structure of the CaribNews Foundation, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office said that the role of the foundation was more formalized as a way to handle the new rules and that it would have come from the Standards Committee staff. The Rodneys were the first people to describe the new structure to Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office following their conversation with Ms. Mobley. The Rodneys told Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office that they could easily comply because they had always done the conference through the foundation. The Rodneys told him that it should have always been called the CaribNews Foundation's conference.
 12. Before 2007, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office knew that the corporations had a role in the conference because the format was in part to bring businesses together. Members of Congress would talk policy, but the Members' presence was the glamour part of the conference and a way to attract more people. However, policy was not the central focus of the conference. The central focus of the conference was business and increasing investment in the region. The Members of Congress drew government officials from the various Caribbean governments and these government officials drew the businesses.
 13. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was aware the involvement of other corporations like AT&T, Macy's, Citi, etc because they were pretty consistent supports of the conference. It was clear they were supporters of the conference financially.

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14. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not talk to Representative Rangel about these matters because the Member does not require that level of detail and does not typically ask for specifics.
15. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember how he became aware of the 2007 rule changes and did not remember attending any briefings or training about the new rules. He thought he was aware of the limits on the number of days a Member could attend an event paid for by an entity that employs a lobbyist, but he was not certain. Mr. Daley did not think he was aware of rules that made an entity that earmarked money for a trip a sponsor of that trip.
16. In response to the question: At the time of the 2007/2008 conferences, how sponsor was defined? Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that the New York CaribNews Foundation was the sponsor of the conference because they were putting on the conference with money from a general fund that would pay for the conference. At that time he became conscious of a need for a 501(c)(3) to be the sponsor.
17. Over the course of several phone calls— most often with Patricia Louis and Faye Rodney, Karl Rodney's wife – Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office learned that he CaribNews Foundation was going to raise money from their traditional donors and other entities.
18. The government of St. Maarten was the lynchpin of the 2008 conference. They were the conference's host and they had specific requirements, as host, that were financial in nature. For instance, when a host government owns a conference center and/or hotel then they give the rooms and conference space for free. If they do not own space, then they have to arrange with a hotel to give rooms and space to the conference at an affordable amount. Other host government support includes police escorts, airport greeting services, and security services. They also host an opening reception and key components of the conference.
19. Although it was not typical, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office became the scheduler for Representative Rangel's travel to the conference in 2008 because he played a part in convincing him to go. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office made the reservations for the Member, but did not remember how he did it or whether the Representative had an e-ticket or a ticket in some other form. He did not remember receiving any airline itinerary documents, but it would have been common practice for him to receive one.

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20. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was shown the pre-travel clearance form submitted to the Standards Committee and stated that he filled it out and the Member signed it. He was shown the post-travel disclosure forms that were submitted to the Standards Committee and stated that he filled them out and the Representative signed them.
21. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office initially said he got the information to fill out the post-travel forms from the Rodneys and stated that he remembered getting a memo from the Rodneys with the cost of the various aspects of the trip on it and that the memo was where he got the dollar amounts for the post-travel forms. He was then asked to explain why the numbers on the post-travel form matched the pre-travel form and not the memo from the Rodneys. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office then said that he could not say for sure that he got the numbers from the memo. He did not remember if the numbers were from the memo or from the pre-travel forms. He was not sure if he checked the cost of the airfare against the airline tickets or if he got it from the pre-travel documents or from the memo.
22. Generally speaking, however, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office would not look behind the numbers given by the Rodneys. He would assume the Rodneys were accurate. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was not certain how it was done, but thought that the accounting for the conference was simple and the information for each Member would be the same. He did not ask the Rodneys for supporting documentation for the numbers on the memo.
23. After the conference, he spoke to Representative Rangel generally about the event. When the article by Susan Crabtree was published there was a lot of talk about the subject of the article with several people. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember with whom he spoke. He then said that he spoke with the Rodneys and the Member. Overall there was an opinion that there could not be anything substantive to the article because the travel was approved by the Standards Committee. It was true that the corporations were at the conference, but they did not have anything to do with their Washington, DC agenda because that's not who attended the conference. His conversations with Representative Rangel were brief and were limited to reassuring him that the office followed the rules and got approval for the travel.
24. After the OCE review was initiated Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office called other members of the Congressional Black Caucus. Representative Rangel asked him to make the calls and to tell them that he would stand by them and offered his help.

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25. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office recalled a conversation with Representative Carolyn Kilpatrick's chief of staff, Kim Rudolph. Ms. Rudolph addressed the comments that Representative Kilpatrick made in which she thanked the sponsors of the conference. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office explained Representative Kilpatrick's statements to OCE by saying that that regardless of who the real sponsor of the event was, when Members thank the corporations it helps the Rodneys put on the conference -- even if the sponsors are not sponsors under the rule. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office also remembered speaking to Shelly Thomas, Delegate Donna Christensen's scheduler, but did not recall the specifics of the conversation.
26. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was not aware of any limits on a private foundation paying for overseas travel. He did not know whether the CaribNews Foundation was a private foundation or a public charity.
27. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was shown a copy of Congressman Rangel's itinerary and a receipt for an electronic ticket. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that he did not remember seeing it before, but that the itinerary was the type of document that would typically be placed in the Congressman's briefing book so that he could provide the information at the airport in order to get his ticket. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office also pointed out that the receipt for the electronic ticket was the sort of document that would only be provided after the Congressman checked in for his flight.

I prepared this Memorandum of Interview on May 28, 2009 after interviewing Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office on May 27, 2009. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office on May 27, 2009.

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

Exhibit 23



THE NEW YORK CARIBNEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Kelly Mobley
FROM: Patricia Louis
COMPANY: Committee on Standards of
official conduct
DATE: 8/20/08
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392
TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: 2008 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Following is the completed form and attachments re travel for Members of Congress to attend the 2008 Multinational Business Conference scheduled for November 6-9, 2008 in St. Maarten.

Regards



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Organized by Carib News Foundation, A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): BASED ON COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE WHICH IMPACTS US/CARIBBEAN RELATIONS ON WHICH THE MEMBER SERVES.
6. Dates of travel: NOVEMBER 8-9, 2008
7. Cities of departure - destination - return: VARIES - DEPENDING ON MEMBER
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
- a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
- a. One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered:
- If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

09-6333 0257

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: _____
CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (* SEE ATTACHED)

13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: _____
THE INTEREST OF CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION IS TO PROMOTE, INFORM, TRADE AND
ESTABLISHMENT OF MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE U.S AND THE CARIBBEAN

14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted: _____
REGULAR SCHEDULED AIR SERVICE, ECONOMY CLASS

15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):

16. I represent that either (check one of the following):

a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: ~~or~~

b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____

17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: SEE ATTACHED

18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: SONESTA MAHO BEACH RESORT.

19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$110.00

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: HAS APPROPRIATE MEETING ROOMS

21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	410	260	145
For each accompanying family member	410	0	145

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$150 \$ 25	Conference Registration Local transportation
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

Address: 7 WEST 36th STREET, 8th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

Telephone number: (212) 944-1991

Fax number: (212) 944-2089

Email Address: CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. House of Representatives
HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-7103 (phone)
(202) 225-7392 (general fax)
(202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INVITED TO THE
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS
CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 6-9, 2008, ST. MAARTEN, N.A.

Congresswoman Diane E. Watson
Congressman David Scott
Congressman James Clyburn
Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez
Congressman Charles Rangel
Congressman Donald Payne
Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
Congressman Edolphus Towns
Congressman G. K. Butterfield
Congressman Gregory Meeks
Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.
Congressman Keith Ellison
Congressman Kendrick Meek
Congresswoman Maxine Waters
Congressman Melvin Watt
Congressman Robert Scott
Congressman William Lacy Clay
Congresswoman Barbara Lee
Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
Congresswoman Corrine Brown
Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
Congressman Danny Davis
Congressman Bennie Thompson
Congresswoman Laura Richardson

July 2008

09-6333 0260



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1999; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Item #17

A Caribbean country whose proximity to other Caribbean Countries makes it conveniently located for delegates from the other Caribbean countries to attend.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

09-6333 0261

**MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INVITED TO THE
13th Annual Multinational Business Conference
St. Maarten, November 6-9, 2008**

**Congressman William Lacy Clay
U.S House of Representatives
131 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2406
Fax: 202-226-3717**

**Congresswoman Diane E. Watson
US House of Representatives
125 Cannon HOB
Washington , DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7084
Fax: 202-225-2422**

**Congressman Kendrick Meek
U.S House of Representatives
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Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-4506
Fax: 202-226-0777**

**Congressman David Scott
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Fax: 202-225-4268**

**Congressman James Clyburn
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Phone: 202-225-3315
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Congressman Charles Rangel
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09-6333 0263

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Congresswoman Barbara Lee
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Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
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09-6333 0264

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Fax: 202-2256-1477

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
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Fax: 202-225-3317

Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
U.S House of Representatives
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Fax: 202-2256-0112

Congressman Danny Davis
U.S House of Representatives
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Fax: 202-225-5641

Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs-Jones
U.S House of Representatives
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Fax: 202-2256-1539/2367

Congressman Bennie Thompson
US House of Representatives
2432 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
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Fax: 202-225-5898

09-6333 0265

Working Copy

13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
St. Maarten, N.A.

**THEME: A REGION IN TRANSITION -- STRATEGY FOR
CHANGE -- BUILDING ALLIANCES**

Thursday, November 6, 2008

12:00 noon- 6:00pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -

5:00 - 6:30 - TOWN HALL FORUM - HEALTH

Healthy Eating and Living

**Innovative Solutions for Life styles
Diseases- a Collaborative Approach - Diabetes,
Hypertension, Obesity, Oral Health**

Venue - ROYAL ISLANDER

Moderator - Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

**Speakers - Mrs. Karen Boykin-Towns
Congressmember Dr. Donna Christian Christensen
Commissioner Maria Buncamper Molanus, Health
Commissioner, St. Maarten**

Dr. Leon Merrick

Dr. Jay Cohan

Dr. John Palmer

6:30- 7:30pm - OPENING RECEPTION

Venue: - UPPER POOL

09-6333 0266

Theme: - *A REGION IN TRANSITION -*
Speakers: - Faye A. Rodney
Hon. Roy Marlin - Commissioner for Tourism & Finance - St
Maarten.

MC: - Sabrina Hosang - Royal Caribbean Bakery
7:30 - 9:30 pm - OPENING DINNER

Venue: - MAHO ROOM

Theme: - *STRATEGY FOR CHANGE*

MC - Judge Sylvia Hinds-Radix

Speakers: - Susan Taylor

Hon. Donald Payne, Member US Congress

10:00pm - 1:00am: - HOSPITALITY AREA

Friday, November 7, 2008

8:00am - 8:45am - (BREAKFAST) - OCEAN TERRACE

9:00am - 6:00pm **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**
OCEAN TERRACE LOBBY

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT
SABA ROOM

9:00am - 10:15am - **OPENING CEREMONIES**

Venue: - **MAHO ROOM**

Theme: - **BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR PROGRESS**

Invocation: - **Rev. Susan Johnson=Cook**

Anthems: - **St. Maarten**
Lift Every Voice

Remarks: - **Eric Eve**
Karen Boykin-Towns
Marie Long
Ed Goldberg
Patrick Gaston
Hazel Dukes

Speakers: - **Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick -- Member**
US Congress
Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader
of Government, St. Maarten
Harry Belafonte

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONIES

10:15am - 10:30am - **COFFEE BREAK -**

10:30am - 11:45am - **PRESENTATION**

EDUCATION -- TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES - COLLABORATION

Moderator - **Dr. Emmanuel Gonsalves**
Greetings - **Marie Long**
Speakers - **Dr. Edison Jackson**
Patrick Gaston
Dr. Marcia Keizs
Congressmember Eddie Bernice Johnson
Professor Rex Nettleford

12.00 noon - 1:15p.m.

PRESENTATION

TRAVEL AND TOURISM -

A Transformative Approach

Moderator - **Lloyd Williams**
Greetings - **Wallace Ford**
Speakers - **Commissioner Roy Marlin**
Howard Dodson
Congressman Gregory Meeks
Professor Rex Nettleford
Dr. Martin Valdes

12:00 noon - 1:15p.m - PRESENTATION
HEALTH - AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE REGION

Greetings - Karen Boykin-Towns

Moderator - Yvonne Graham

Speakers - Dr. Denzil Douglas
 Dr. Carl Kenel Pierre
 Commissioner Maria Buncamper Molanus, Health
 Commissioner, St. Maarten
 Dr. Dexter McKenzie

1:30pm - 2:30pm - LUNCHEON

Venue: - Main Ballroom

Theme: - **BUILDING A WINNING STRATEGY - PARTNERSHIPS THAT WORK**

Moderator: - Hon. Nick Perry, NYS Assembly

Speakers - Eric Eve

Keynote Speaker - Hon. David Paterson, Governor New York State

3:00pm - 4:00pm

Round Table # 1 -

Theme - **EDUCATION - THINKFINITY PRESENTATION & DEMONSTRATION**

Venue - Royal Islander A
MC - Dr. Patricia Hazlewood
Speakers - Patrick Gaston
Albert Browne

Round Table #2 -

Theme - *LOCAL BUSINESS INITIATIVES*
Opportunities with US Companies

Venue - Royal Islander B
Speakers : - Ed Goldberg
Eric Eve
Albert Browne

4:30pm - 6:00pm

- *TOWN HALL FORUM - EDUCATION*
Venue - Royal Islander A
Theme : *EDUCATION - SHARING WORKING SOLUTIONS*
Greetings : Michael Flanigan
Moderator : Dr. Marcella Maxwell

Speakers: - Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor, NYC
Dr. Edison O. Jackson
Dr. Marcia Keizs
Professor Rex Nettleford, UWI
William Payne, Assemblyman New Jersey

Venue:

6:30:00pm - 7:30pm - **HOST COUNTRY EVENING**

Venue:

Theme

MC:

Speakers:

7:30 - 8:00 pm:

8:00pm - 10:30 pm.

CULTURAL PRESENTATION

Venue :

Theme

10:00pm - 1:00am - **HOSPITALITY AREA**

Venue:

Saturday, November 8, 2008

7:45 am - 8:15 am = **BREAKFAST**

Venue - **OCEAN TERRACE**

8:30am - 10:00am - **PRESENTATION**

Theme **WOMEN OF INFLUENCE AND POWER**

Venue: - **MAHO BEACH**

- Greetings & Opening Remarks -** - Brenda Scott
- Moderator** - Marilyn Johnson
- Speakers:** - Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Government Business
- Dame Billie Miller, former Deputy Prime Minister, of Barbados
- Dr. Marcia Keizs, President York College
- Michelle Paterson, First Lady New York State
- Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
- Rev. Dr. Susan Johnson-Cook
- 10.15am - 11:45am** - **PRESENTATION**
- Theme** - **THE CARIBBEAN, IT'S VALUE & POTENTIAL**
- Venue** - Royal Islander A
- Greetings** - Wallace Ford
- Moderator** - Dame Billie Miller
- Speakers** - Hon. P. J. Patterson, former Prime Minister, Jamaica
- Hon. Dr. Ralph Gonsálves, Prime Minister St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister, St. Kitts-Nevis
- Congressman Charles Rangel
- 12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m.** - **PRIVATE MEETING -- CLOSED DOOR SESSION**
with Members of Congress and Ministers of Government

12:00 noon - 1:15p.m.

PRESENTATION

Theme

- *TRADE & INVESTMENT - CREATIVE SOLUTIONS*
- *RETOOLING FOR GROWTH - PARTNERSHIP AT WORK*

Venue

- Royal Islander A

Greetings

- Michael Flanigan

Moderator

- Ivanhoe Ffriend

Speakers

- Adolfo Carrion, Borough President, Bronx, New York
- Compton Bourne, President Caribbean Development Bank
- Congressman Edolphus Towns
- Eric Eve

12:00 noon - 1:15pm

- **PRESENTATION**

Theme

- *Hemispheric Security - Ports/Airports - Crime - Drugs - Disaster*

Venue

- Royal Islander B

Greetings

- Earl Brown, Deputy Borough President, Bronx
- Judge Sylvia Ash

Moderator

- Tony Best

Speakers

- Congressman Bennie Thompson
- Commissioner Theo Heyliger, St. Maarten
- Professor Ivelaw Griffith
- Hon. Lance Ogiste, Brooklyn District Attorney

1:30pm - 2:30 pm

LUNCHEON

Venue

- MAHO ROOM

Theme: *CARIBBEAN -- A SOLID INVESTMENT*

Greetings - Hon. Darryl Towns

Speakers - Hon. William Thompson, NYC Comptroller
Dr. Compton Bourne, President CDB

Round Table #1 - *IMMIGRATION/DEPORTEES*

Venue - Royal Islander A

Moderator - Dr. Marco Mason

Speakers Congressman Bennie Thompson
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson, Member US Congress
Attorney Stanford Rubenstein
NYC Councilmember Dr. Kendall Stewart

Round Table#2: - *HAITI -- BOLD INITIATIVES -- THE DIASPORA--
CBC AND CARICOM*

Venue - Royal Islander B

Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham

Speakers - Hon. Charles Rangel
Hon. Gregory Meeks
Hon. Ralph Gonsalves
Dr. Lesly Kernisant

4:30 pm -- 6:00pm - *TOWN HALL FORUM - TECHNOLOGY*

Venue: Royal Islander A

Greetings & Opening - Marie Long

Moderator - Colin Ward

**Speakers - Congressman Edolphus Towns
Albert Brown
Commissioner of Technology**

6:30 - 7:30pm - GALA RECEPTION

Speakers - Susan Taylor

7:30pm - 10:00pm - GALA DINNER & AWARDS PRESENTATION

Speaker - Dr. Harry Belafonte

**Hon. Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Government
Business**

AWARDS PRESENTATION

ENTERTAINMENT

10:30pm - 1:00am - HOSPITALITY AREA

Venue: HOTEL CONFERENCE ROOM

Sunday, November 9, 2008

8:30 am - 10:00am - POWER BREAKFAST

Theme: - *SPIRITUALITY - THE BASICS IN BUSINESS*
Greetings - *Lowell Hawthorne*
Speakers - *Ed Goldberg*
Selection: - *Local Choir*

October 13, 2008

Exhibit 24

Room 1002

2611 JEFF DAVIS 204 ARLINGTON, VA 22202 800-433-7300
SALES PERSON: GC ITINERARY NTLQHG DATE: 27 OCT 08
PAGE: 01

TO: CARIB NEWS ATTN PAT 212-944-2089-FAX
ATTN GEORGE DALLEY /CONGRESSMAN RANGEL/ 202-225-08

FOR: RANGEL/CHARLES

07 NOV 08 - FRIDAY
AIR AMERICAN AIRLINES FLT:667 ECONOMY FOOD FOR PURCHASE
LV NEW YORK JFK 745A BQP: BOEING 757
DEPART: TERMINAL B 04HR 05MIN
AR ST MAARTEN 1250P NON-STOP
RANGEL/CHARLES SEAT-17D AA-HAD6146

09 NOV 08 - SUNDAY
AIR AMERICAN AIRLINES FLT:660 ECONOMY FOOD FOR PURCHASE
LV ST MAARTEN 200P BQP: BOEING 757
04HR 40MIN
AR NEW YORK JFK 540P NON-STOP
ARRIVE: TERMINAL B
RANGEL/CHARLES SEAT-18F AA-HAD6146

*****ATTN AAD *****
AIRFARE 752.15 ROUNDTrip COACH. THE 5 PERCENT DISCOUNT
FROM THE GROUP MEETING CONTRACT HAS BEEN APPLIED
THIS IS A NON-REFUNDABLE FARE.
) GUARANTEES THE PRICE THE TICKET MUST BE ISSUED BY
OCTOBER 27TH. IF THE TICKET IS PURCHASED ON A LATER DATE
THE RESERVATION WILL BE RE-PRICED ON THE DAY THE TICKET IS
ISSUED.
AFTER THE TICKET IS ISSUED ** CHANGES** 150.00 FEE
/EACH CHANGE/ AND A POSSIBLE FARE DIFFERENCE.
THANKS,
DONNA
ELECTRONIC TICKET

Do not expose to atmosphere, heat or direct sunlight

STAPLE HERE ATB2

INSERT

PASSENGER TICKET AND BAGGAGE CHECK
ELECTRONIC TICKET
American Airlines
PASSENGER RECEIPT 1 OF 1
27 OCT 08 09181212
NEW YORK, NY
ST MAARTEN
NEW YORK, NY
NOT VALID FOR TRAVEL
001 2190158847 6

2190158847

NYC NY 501178.65TRCA/NTUS NY NY1488.38ARCA/NTUSALC 658.3520 F0E1.80 XT8.35FC00
DEFS_80117.80KY5.80X14.50XFJFK4.5

USD	658.00
NY	30.80
AY	2.50
XT	60.85
BT	752.15

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09-6333 0279

CN-000102

Exhibit 25



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the
General Counsel

Office of the
Secretary
Washington, D.C.
20201

June 2, 2000

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Ethics Counselors
National Institutes of Health

FROM: Karen Santoro
Ethics Counsel

SUBJECT: Outside Activities of NIH Employees with Foundations

Recently, a provision of the Internal Revenue Code has been brought to my attention that has serious ramifications for NIH employees who have previously received approval to engage in outside employment activities with private foundations. The statute imposes a tax on "each act of self-dealing between a disqualified person and a private foundation." 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(1). This statute, which was enacted in 1969, was intended to curb private foundations' attempts to influence Government officials. The Internal Revenue Service has issued a number of revenue rulings with respect to Government employees and prospective activities with private foundations.

Issue: The Internal Revenue Service imposes an individual penalty tax of up to 200% of the amount of compensation from a private foundation to certain Government officials conducting outside activities with these foundations.

Conclusion: Certain Government officials should refrain from accepting compensation (other than travel expenses within the United States) for outside activities with private foundations.

Discussion: Specifically, the statute imposes a tax on each act of self-dealing by a disqualified individual equal to five percent of the amount involved for each year in the taxable period. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(1) [1]. In any case in which an initial tax is imposed on an act of self-dealing which is not corrected within the taxable period, a tax equal to 200 percent of the amount involved will be imposed on the disqualified person. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(b)(1)[2].

The Code defines "self-dealing" as any direct or indirect agreement by a private foundation to make any payment to certain enumerated government officials. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(1)(F)[3]. Government officials who are "disqualified persons" within the scope of this restriction are elective officials, Presidential appointees, Schedule C employees, and individuals compensated at or above GS-15-7 levels, irrespective of their appointment mechanism (Title 42, SBRS, Commissioned Corps), and personal or executive assistants or secretaries to any of the foregoing. 26 U.S.C. § 4946(c). Excluded from the definition of government employees is a "special governmental employee" as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 202 (a)[4]; Treas. Reg. 53.4946 §1(g)(1).

Also excluded from the definition of self-dealing are agreements to employ an individual for any period after the termination of his government service if that individual is terminating his government service within a 90 day period. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (d)(1)(F). For purposes of the statute, a "private foundation" has the same meaning as in 26 U.S.C. § 509. A website for obtaining the status of a foundation can be found at http://www.irs.ustreas.gov/bus_info/eo/eosearch.html.

09-6333 0281

Government officials who are within the scope of this statute will be required to pay the tax only if the individual participates in the act of self-dealing knowing that it is an act of self-dealing. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (a)(1). The regulations define "knowing" to include those situations when: the individual has actual knowledge of the facts that such a transaction would be self-dealing; he is aware that the act violates Federal tax law governing self-dealing; and he negligently fails to make reasonable attempts to ascertain whether the act is an act of self-dealing or he is in fact aware that it is in an act of self-dealing. Treas. Reg. § 53.4941 (a)(1)-(b)(3). The burden is thus on the individual to determine whether he or she is liable under the statute.

An individual's participation in an act of self-dealing will not be considered "knowing" if the individual, after full disclosure of the factual situation to legal counsel, relies on the advice of counsel expressed in a "reasoned written legal opinion" that an act is not an act of self-dealing within the meaning of the statute, even if the act is subsequently determined to be self-dealing. Treas. Reg. § 53.4941(a)(1)-(b)(6).

Finally, a tax for self-dealing will not be imposed under the following circumstances: certain nontaxable prizes and awards if the recipients are selected from the general public; nontaxable scholarships and fellowship grants; qualifying annuity plans; contributions or gifts not exceeding an aggregate of \$25; payments made under the government employee training program in 5 U.S.C. Ch. 41; and payment of travel expenses within the United States. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (d)(2)(B); Rev. Rul. 131, 1974-2 C.B. 385.

As a result of this statute, NIH employees paid at or above the GS 15-7 level are effectively prohibited from receiving compensation from a private foundation for activities such as teaching, writing, advising, or consulting. The Internal Revenue Service may serve a deficiency notice upon an employee, who would then be forced to pay the tax or contest the assessment.

Effective immediately, all requests for approval of outside activities must be reviewed in accordance with the statutory provision at 26 U.S.C. § 4941. The compensation level of the individual requesting approval must be considered in conjunction with an analysis of the nature of the private entity offering the opportunity for compensation. Previously approved outside activities with foundations for NIH employees who are paid at or above the GS 15-7 level should be reviewed to determine the status of the foundation. Should the status of the foundation be private, any affected employee must be advised to either accept only travel expenses within the United States for his/her service or resign from such service. Employees who have questions whether payment to them by a private foundation constitutes acts of self-dealing should consult private counsel.

For your information, the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) and the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) are For your information, the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) and the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) are not considered private foundations for purposes of this prohibition.

The NIH Office of the Legal Advisor has reviewed and concurs in this opinion.

cc: Robert Lanman, Stephen Benowitz

[1] When a tax is imposed on a self-dealer, a corresponding tax of 2.5 percent is imposed on any foundation manager unless the participation by the foundation manager is not willful and is due to reasonable care. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(2). A maximum tax of \$10,000 may be imposed. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (c) (2) .

[2] The "taxable period" is defined as the period beginning with the date on which the act of self-dealing occurs, and ending on the earliest of: the date that a deficiency notice is mailed by the I.R.S.; the date on which the tax is assessed ; or the date on which the correction of the act of self-dealing is completed. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (e), Treas. Reg. § 53.4941 (e) -1 (a) (1). As with the initial tax, a corresponding additional tax of 50 percent will be imposed on any foundation manager who refuses to agree to the correction. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (b) (2). As with the initial tax, the penalty on a foundation manager is limited to \$10,000. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (c) (2)

[3] The statute also defines "self-dealing" to include: the sale or exchange, or leasing, of property; the lending of money or other extension of credit; the furnishing of goods, services, or facilities; payments to a disqualified person as defined in 26 U.S.C. § 4946 (a) (such as substantial contributors; foundation managers, holders of 20 percent of the voting power or beneficial interests; family members of disqualified individuals, or a corporation, partnership, or trust holding a 35 percent interest); and transfer to or use by a disqualified person of the foundation's income or assets. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (d).

[4] 18 U.S.C. § 202 (a) defines "special Government employee" as temporary employee appointed for a term not to exceed 130 days, a part-time U.S. commissioner or magistrate, a part-time member of Congress, or a Reserve or National Guard officer.

[Back to Top](#) | [Home Page](#) | [Contacts](#)

EXHIBIT 26

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Delegate Donna Christensen
Review #: 09-3698; 09-2222; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-6333
Date: May 4, 2009
Location: 1510 Longworth HOB, Washington, DC
Participants: Leo Wise
Beth Horton

Summary: Delegate Christensen attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference. We requested an interview with Ms. Christensen and she consented. Delegate Christensen was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and she signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. Ms. Christensen made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. She attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008.
2. The conference was held in St. Maarten.
3. She arrived in St. Maarten on the Thursday after the election and remained in St. Maarten through the following Saturday.
4. She has had a long relationship with the Carib News Foundation and she introduced the topic of healthcare at the 2008 conference. She is always invited to participate at the conference.
5. Carib News sponsored the conference.
6. She attended a town meeting when she arrived at the conference.

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

7. The Rodneys owned the Carib News paper.
8. She assumed the Foundation arm is not unlike other companies not-for-profit arms.
9. She was invited to the conference via letter, but is not aware who signed the letter. Carl and Faye Rodney would have been responsible for inviting her.
10. The government of St. Maarten participates with the Foundation in holding the conference and the government hosts a reception and welcomes participants at the opening. The head of the government speaks at discussions with other heads of government and arranges some type of cultural performance, such as a children's choir.
11. As far as she knew, Carib News sponsored the conference.
12. She understood that the sponsor would be responsible for setting up the hotel, organizing the agenda for the conference, and inviting individuals to participate.
13. The Foundation paid the expenses for the conference.
14. When asked if the Foundation paid all of the expenses, Ms. Christensen asked if the answer was in the record; she was told by Mr. Wise that the board has the post disclosure report. She stated that the Foundation paid for travel and hotel expenses and general activities at the conference that conference participants attended.
15. She saw her airline ticket.
16. She did not recall seeing a hotel bill but she remembered checking into the hotel and stated that she probably received a bill when she checked out because she was responsible for any incidental expenses.
17. She did not know if the government of St. Maarten paid for her hotel room.
18. She paid for one breakfast herself and recalled that the hotel was an all-inclusive hotel and that all other meals were part of the conference. She further stated that the government of St. Maarten paid for a reception, which included food, and that she attended the reception.
19. She attended a dinner on Thursday night which she assumed the cost of was paid by the Foundation.
20. Shelly Thomas handled all of her travel arrangements.

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended.

21. The Foundation booked her travel with Shelly's help. The Foundation would have arranged the airline ticket because the organization had its own travel agent.
22. She stayed at the hotel Thursday and Friday night and that she stayed in a standard room. She recalls that there was a desk in the room and a balcony but she doesn't recall there being more than one room.
23. Her husband did not attend the conference.
24. All travel is arranged with Shelly Thomas. She tells Shelly when she can travel.
25. The Foundation handled travel approval directly through the ethics committee and she and Shelly handled post travel reports.
26. Shelly filled out the post-travel form and that she signed the form. It is her signature on the form.
27. She guessed that Shelly knew the hotel cost but that she did not know where the information for the reported dollar amounts came from. She stated that when she registers at conferences, most places provide the cost of the room.
28. She stated that the office attended the CBC training.
29. The handwriting on the post-travel report looked like her handwriting but she was not sure, she believed that Shelly filled out the form.
30. She believed that she received a letter that included the post-travel information, including the dates of travel. She believed that the Standards Committee would have approved the trip prior to her receiving the invitation.
31. She may have seen the private sponsor certification form, she believed that she would have seen it because she could not have attended without clearance from the Standards Committee.
32. She did not believe that she had any direct contact with the Standards Committee as Shelly was the only person who dealt with the conference.
33. When asked if there were any issues with the 2007 conference in Antigua, Ms. Christensen didn't believe there had been but she was not certain.
34. She stated that she asked other Members if they would be attending the conference.

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

35. She does not recall receiving approval from the Standards Committee for the 2007 conference.
36. She has not met with Standards regarding any travel matter.
37. She had asked other Members at a CBC meeting if they would be attending the conference and she reminded those that would be attending to get their paperwork to the Standards Committee on time for trip approval.
38. She did not speak with any Members of the Standards Committee regarding the conference except for Representative Stephanie Tubbs Jones. She only spoke with Representative Tubbs Jones because she herself was attending the conference.
39. She stated that Representative Tubbs Jones counsel, Dawn Kelly Mobley, may have attended a meeting where she was present and that she may have brought information to explain what the Members could and couldn't do under the new rules.
40. She did not recall any one-on-one conversations about the '08 or '07 conference.
41. She arrived at the conference on Thursday and recalls seeing the banner that listed the conference sponsors. It appeared in all rooms.
42. When asked what the role of the corporate sponsors was at the conference, Ms. Christensen stated that they contributed to the Foundation.
43. She stated that she did not know what made the Foundation the sponsor, she was not aware of that type of detail. Most of the companies have some type of sponsorship at the conference. She did not know if they gave directly to the Foundation or to the Conference. The sponsors generally greet participants and participate in the introduction and at the reception.
44. The definition of sponsor had been explained to her, not in reference to the '08 conference but in general it was explained to her. She recalled discussing what she generally could and couldn't attend.
45. She attended the dinner on Thursday but does not recall if Representative Payne thanked the sponsors.
46. Representative Payne generally talks about issues that he is involved in when speaking at the conference.

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

47. She spoke at the conference and at the Town Hall meeting. She also participated in another panel but the Town Hall was her main involvement. And she attended the opening session.
48. She recalled Representative Kilpatrick speaking at the conference but she did not recall any specific remarks.
49. She was aware that the Foundation was the sponsor of the conference. It did not occur to her that the information on the pre-travel certification was incomplete.
50. She was not aware of how the expenses for the trip were paid, once the Standards Committee approved the trip then she knew she could go and didn't think any more of the trip sponsor.
51. She did not attend the closed door meeting.
52. She generally spoke about deportation and how it affects countries. Trade is also a large issue, and Haiti.
53. She did not receive any reports on any sessions at the conference, not in any formal way. She may have received something in '07 but she could not recall for sure.
54. She participated at the ribbon cutting at the '08 conference. Heads of government and the Rodneys also attended.
55. She recognized the photo that was taken at the ribbon cutting, she recognized her skirt in the picture. She knew the Macy's representative and Representative Kilpatrick, who were also in the photo, and thinks one of the individuals may have been the AT&T representative.
56. She did not meet with any of the co-sponsors, there was no specific meeting. The conference meetings have never been about company specific issues.
57. She attended other sessions at the conference, Representative Kilpatrick also attended one of the sessions that she attended.
58. She attended the opening ceremony, the health and economic sessions, the reception, the ribbon cutting, and the women's breakfast meeting. She can't recall if she attended the education session and she did not go to the hospitality area.
59. The Rodneys attended a luncheon/dinner on the Hill after the conference.

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

60. She did not talk about the conference itself with the Rodneys, other than that she knew of the investigation.
61. At a Caribbean Caucus meeting she spoke with Representative Payne and Kilpatrick about the fact that they were all going through the investigation.
62. She talked with Representative Payne briefly, just in passing, noting that they did not like the new ethics rules.
63. Representative Kilpatrick shared a letter with her that she had been sent since they were both being investigated.
64. She did not have any in-depth conversations with any Members, the Members merely spoke about the fact that they were not happy about the investigation.
65. There were no discussions at any CBC meetings because they felt that they were not supposed to talk about the investigation.
66. She does not attend any events without receiving approval from the Standards Committee. After receiving approval, she does not ask any questions about who is paying the expenses. She assumes all questions have been asked and answered by the Standards Committee. So, nothing she saw at the conference would have raised any flags.
67. She believed that the Foundation is involved in various activities in NY but does not know of any specific activities.

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsors: CMI

Chair/Moderator: Jacqueline Ebanks

Speaker: Hon. Maxine Walters - Member of Congress

Hon. William Lacy Clay - Member of Congress

Hon. Compton Bourne - President, CDB

Caribbean Minister of Finance - FID

12:00noon - 1:15pm

Theme: NATIONAL SECURITY: A PRE-CONDITION FOR SUCCESS

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsors: ISIC

Moderator: Dr. Basil Wilson

Remarks: Reginald Canal

Keynote Speaker: Hon. Bennie Thompson - Member of Congress

Panelists: Hon. William Lacy Clay Jr. - Member of Congress

Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Hon. Colin V. A. Derick - Minister of Justice

Attorney Sanford Rubenstein

12:00 noon - 1:15 pm

Theme

EDUCATION - US AND CARIBBEAN SYNERGIES TO

OVERCOME - CHALLENGES

Sponsors

IBM

Remarks

Marilyn Johnson

Speakers

Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President Medgar Evers College

Hon. Donald Payne - Member of Congress

Hon. Bertrand Joseph

Hon. G. K. Butterfield - Member of Congress

1:30 - 2:00 p.m.

LUNCH

Theme

CARIBBEAN TRADE COMPETITIVENESS AND POSITIONING

Venue

Saudals Grande

Sponsors

Goodworks International

Remarks

Carlton Masters

Keynote Speaker

Hon. Billie Miller - Minister of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade

Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

3:00pm - 4:00pm

ROUND TABLES

IMMIGRATION

Venue:

Moderator:

Dr. Marco Mason

Speakers:

Hon. Sheila Jackson Lee - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Hon. Kendall Stewart - City Council member

Sponsor:

Koyal Caribbean Bakery

DIVERSITY IN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

MACY'S - Outside Vendors

Ed Goldberg
Cheryl Monroe

State Senator Kevin Parker
City Council member Alyann

Sponsor - MACY'S

HAITI - IN TRANSFORMATION

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvonne Graham

Preferred Health Partners

PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES

Moderator :

Lance Ojiste

Hon. Bennie Thompson

Dr. Basil Wilson

Venue

Sponsor

Preferred Health Partners

Speakers

Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress

Hon. Eliot Engel - Member of Congress
CARICOM Rep. - TBD

Venue

Sponsor

Goodworks International

Speaker

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress
CARICOM REP. - TBD

4:00pm - 5:30pm

Venue

Off Site

Theme

HEALTH - COMMON ISSUES - PROVEN SOLUTIONS

Sponsor

Pfizer

Remarks

Karen Boykin-Towns

Moderator

Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

Keynote Speakers: Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Hon. Dr. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Hon. John Herbert Maginley - Minister of Health, Sports & Youth

Dr. Dexter McKenzie

Facilitator - MEC Inturu

5:00pm - 6:30:00pm

6:30:00pm - 10:00 pm - HOST COUNTRY EVENING

Hosted by Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer

**** MANDATORY FOR ALL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO ATTEND**

Venue

Off Site

Sponsor

Antigua & Barbuda

10:00pm - 1:00am

Hospitality Area

Venue:

Sandals Grande

Sponsor:

Golden Krust

Saturday, November 10, 2007

8:00am - 10:00am

Venue:

Sandals Grande

Theme:

WOMEN AND EMPOWERMENT IN THE DIASPORA

Sponsors:

MACYS

Remarks - Brenda Scott - Macy's

MC - Marilyn Johnson

Speakers - Michele Obama (invited)

Hon. Edite Reimice Johnson - Member of Congress

Hon. Diane Alsbatt - Member of Parliament, UK

Baroness Patricia Scotland - Attorney General, UK (invited)

Hannel Michel - President NMSDC

Governor General - Dame Louise Jackson

10:15am - 11:45pm - PRESENTATION

Theme - HEALTH - REAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN UPGRADING

CARE AND DELIVERY

Venue - Sandals Grande

Sponsors - Pfizer

Greeting - Karen Boykin-Towns - Pfizer

Chair/Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham

Keynote - Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Panelists - Dr. Dexter McKenzie

Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Dr. Lesly Kernisant

Dr. Marcia Bayne-Smith

Caribbean person - TBD

10:15am - 11:45am

TRAVEL & TOURISM EXPANSION - THE DIASPORA

CATALYST

Venue

Sponsors

Chair/Moderator

Speakers

AMERICAN AIRLINES/SANDALS

Hoyg Williams

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress

Hon. Keith Ellison - Member of Congress

Hon. Allan Chastanet - Minister of Tourism, St. Lucia

Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Tourism, Antigua & Barbuda

10:15-am-11:45am PRESENTATION

Theme

TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION - SHARING

Venue

Sandals Grande

Sponsors

AT&T

Remarks

Marie Long

Keynote Speakers:

Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Dr. Edmond Mansoon - Member of State

12:00noon - 1:15pm -

Theme - INTEGRATING THE DIASPORA IN BUSINESS - INVESTORS
MANAGERS, MENTORS & TRAINERS

Venue - Sandals Grande

Sponsor - HSBC

Remarks - Javariavis

Speakers - Hon. Compton Rouns

Specialists - Dr. Iyow Heston

Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress

Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress

Hon. William Lacy Clay Jr. - Member of Congress

1:30pm - 2:30pm LUNCH

Theme - FINANCE COMMUNITIE ORGANIZATIONS

AND ROLE

Sponsors - CITI

Remarks - Michael Hanigan

Speakers - Eric Eve - CITI

Hon. William Thompson, New York City Comptroller

2:30pm - 6:30pm

Optional:

3:00pm - 4:00pm - ROUND TABLE

Venue

Round Table #1

Theme CARIBBEAN - A COMPLETE HEALTH CARE DESTINATION

Venue

Sponsors Preferred Health Partners

Remarks Dr. Lesly-Kernisan

Speakers Dr. Dexter McKenzie

Dr. Lorna McBarnette

Round Table #2

Theme HEMISPHERIC DISASTER FUND

Speakers Hon. Danny Davis - Member of Congress
Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
Dr. Roy Hastick

Venue

Sponsor

Round Table #3

Theme CLOSING THE GENERATION GAP

Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress
Karlisa Rodney
Lita Balram

Sabrina Hosang

Winthrop Wellington

Venue

Sponsor

Round Table #4

Theme

PASSPORT - ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRAINTS ON TOURISM

Venue

Sponsor : American Airlines

Speakers

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress
Hon. Harold Lowell - Minister of Tourism
Mr. Lloyd Williams

Sponsor

: CARIB NEWS

4:00pm - 5:30pm

COMMUNITY OUTREACH -

EDUCATION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION

Venue:

Off Site

Sponsor

CITI

Moderator:

Michael Flanigan

Speakers:

Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College

Hon. Danny Davis - Member of Congress

Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Hon. Bertrand Joseph

Facilitator MEC Intern

E.D.

6:30 - 7:30pm GALA RECEPTIONS

Venue:

Sponsor AT&T-HSBC

Speaker Hon. Billie Miller, Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Minister of Government - Antigua

Theme:

7:30 - 10:00 pm GALA DINNER & AWARDS

Theme:

Venue:

Sponsors CITY/MACY'S/PFIZER

Speakers Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

Hon. James Clyburn - Member of Congress

Keynote Speaker : Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Presentation of the Marcus Garvey "Bridge Builder" Awards

Hospitality Area

10:30pm - 1:00am

Y venue:

Sponsor: Royal Caribbean Bakery

Sunday, November 11, 2007

8:30 am - 10:00am POWER BREAKFAST

Theme: UNDERSTANDING THE SPIRITUAL ROOTS AND MAKING IT WORK

Sponsors: Golden Krust/Macys

Celebrant: Ed Goldberg

Lowell Hawthorne

Caribbean person - TBD

Selection

Theme:

Selection:

11:00am } Paid Trip to Montserrat - Transportation (Terry) - Lunch and Special Tour - Addressed by Chief Minister Lowell Lewis

8:00 pm }

10/3/07

OFF-PUBLIC SCHEDULE - MANDATORY FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Friday November 9, 2007

5:30 - 6:30 p.m. - Private Welcome Reception with Governor General

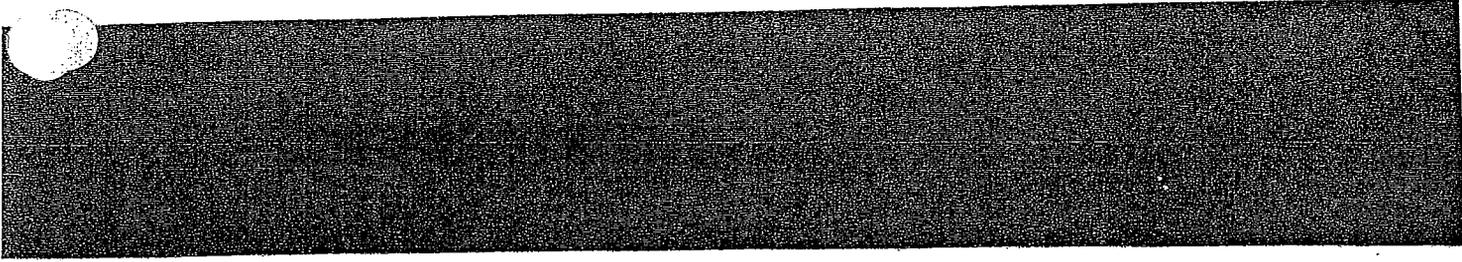
Saturday November 10, 2007

US-CARIBBEAN RELATIONS

11:00 a.m. - 1:00pm - Closed Door Meeting
(Mandatory for all Members)

Prime Ministers & Ministers of Government
with Members of Congress
Secretary of State - Condoleezza Rice (invited)

5:30pm - 6:30pm - Private Meeting with Local Elected Officials and
the Business Community



[The text in this section is almost entirely obscured by heavy horizontal black redaction bars. Only faint, illegible traces of text are visible.]

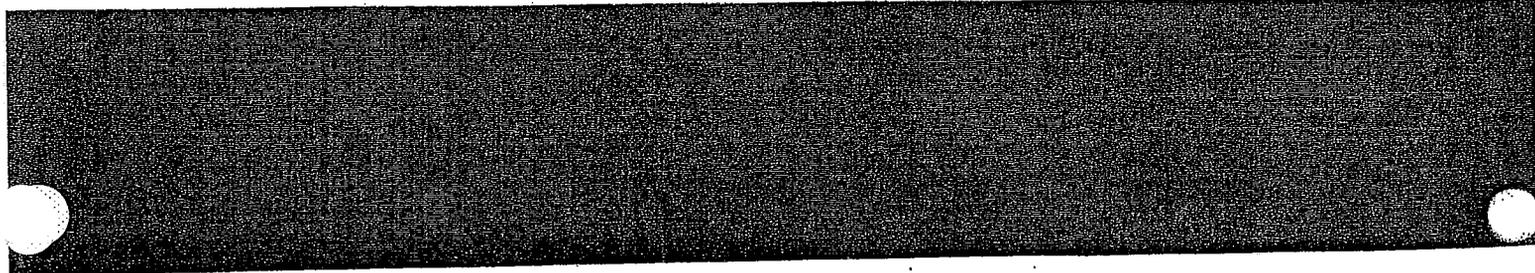


Exhibit 20

Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's (Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring" sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]," which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

10/15/2007

CONFIDENTIAL

09-6333 0170

CN 000056



THE NEW YORK CARIB NEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 23 FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Susan Olsen	FROM: R. Louis
COMPANY: House Ctee on Standards	DATE: 10/12/07
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: Travel Certification Form	
<input type="checkbox"/> URGENT <input type="checkbox"/> FOR REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE VERIFY <input type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION	

Ms. Olsen:
In response to your e-mail -- the Conference is paid for by CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION.

The companies are participants. They are not sponsors or co-sponsors for any part of the trip and play no role in the planning or content.

The program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants.

I regret the misunderstanding and thank you for your patience as I go through and grow through this process, which is new to me.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 1:55 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Confidential

The fax did not come through. I will be stepping out of the office for the remainder of the day, but will be in early Monday. Please follow up again with Susan. I have explained that the organizations you labeled as co-sponsors are not. They support your foundation annually, but have not and will not pay for the Members trip. This is simply a misunderstanding of the terms "sponsor", "contributor", and "participant" as used in the Ethics rules which is why I sent you the Rules book for preparation.

Once you are able to clarify these issues and make sure your literary passes too, you should be fine. An Ethics Committee Staff Attorney must review and approve as well. Your Staff Attorney is Susan.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 11:55 AM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Confidential

Have you spoken with your Director and explained the problem so you can call Olson asap?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:59 AM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: FW: Confidential

Please read both emails below. Give Susan a call as soon as you work through the kink, let her know you are following up. Please make yourself available to work through this matter today. Thank you Patricia. (These other organizations can participate in the program but should not help pay for the trip).

From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:29 AM
To: O'Reilly, Bill; Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Bill and Dawn,
Please note the following response from Ms. Louis at Carib News. Unfortunately, it appears that if each sponsor contributes funding directly to the trip (an earmark of funds) and not simply to the general funds of Carib News, then the assumption is that all of these entities are co-sponsors of the trip for purposes of the House travel rules. If that is the case and since it is likely that at least one of these co-sponsors hires or retains a federally registered lobbyist, the trip could only be a one-day event trip. Thus the Committee can't approve the trip as it currently exists.

But, if you have a different interpretation of the below information from Ms. Louis, please do let
10/12/2007

me know. Thanks! Susan

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:33 AM
To: Olson, Susan
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,

In response to your e-mail:

The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation.

As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program

that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the

Conference.

No federally registered lobbyist or foreign agent will be accompanying the Members of participating in the program.

Regards

Patricia Lovis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn.KellyMoblely@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Lovis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's

10/12/2007

09-6333 0173

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000059

(Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring" sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]" which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

10/12/2007

09-6333 0174

HT-2, The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7103
Fax: 202-225-7392

10/12/2007

09-6333 0175

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000061



THE NEW YORK CARIB NEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 21 FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Dawn Kelly Mobley	FROM: P. Louis <i>[Signature]</i>
COMPANY: Ethics Counsel for Cong. Stephanie Tubbs Jones	DATE: 10/11/07
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: Travel Form	

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Further to our conversations of this morning, following is the Travel Certification Form ..

The Conference is paid for by the Carib News Foundation. The companies are participants, are not sponsors or co-sponsors for any part of the trip and play no role in the planning or content.

The program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants.

I regret the mis-understanding and thank you for holding my hand as I go through and grow through this process which is new to me.

Kindly review and advise before I send to Ms. Olsen.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Registration

From: Thomas, Shelley [Shelley.Thomas@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 7:47 AM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

This is new territory, since we never had to go through this before. I don't have an answer and I already turned in Donna's forms.

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 5:56 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn, Thomas, Shelley, Dalley, George
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Please see e-mail I received from Ms. Olson of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

A possible response could be: **The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation. As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.**

Please advise us.

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn, Kelly Mobley@mail.house.gov, O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's (Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring"

sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
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- o CITI
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- o Macy's
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- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Ktust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]," which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 6:49 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Her question centers on whether any of these "co-sponsors" retains a lobbyist or foreign. This is the issue you and I focused on previously. It is a central problem if any do and are paying for the events. If so, you are in the same position as last year with one-day events. Call Susan back tomorrow as early as possible. Hopefully, these co-sponsors don't retain lobbyists, but you should have their representations on this matter. At a minimum, Macy's does, right? Alternatively, if they are only sponsoring event tables or the like, a lobbyist will not be problematic.

Sent using BlackBerry

-----Original Message-----

From: plouls <plouls@nycaribnews.com>
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn; Thomas, Shelley; Dalloy, George
Sent: Wed, Oct 10, 17:56:25 2007
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Please see e-mail I received from Ms. Olson of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct:

A possible response could be: The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation. As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Please advise us.

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louls

Executive Assistant

CARIB NEWS

7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor

New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM

To: plouis@caribnews.com
Cc: Dawn Kelly Mobley@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's (Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring" sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]" which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

10/10/2007

09-6333 0180

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000066

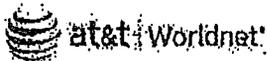
Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson
Counsel
House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
HT-2, The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7103
Fax: 202-225-7392

10/10/2007

09-6333 0181

CONFIDENTIAL



[Print] [Close]

From: "Thomas, Shelley" <Shelley.Thomas@mail.house.gov>
 "James, Corliss" <Corliss.James@mail.house.gov>, "Long, Karyn" <Karyn.Long@mail.house.gov>, "Bishop, Mary" <Mary.Bishop@mail.house.gov>, "Chaplin, Jennie" <Jennie.Chaplin@mail.house.gov>, "Pickens, Crystal" <Crystal.Pickens@mail.house.gov>, "Hamlett, Bjenell" <Barbara.Hamlett@mail.house.gov>, "Hendricks, Jasper" <Jasper.Hendricks@mail.house.gov>, "Dailey, Katie" <Katie.Dailey@mail.house.gov>, "GA04Scheduling" <GA04Scheduling@mail.house.gov>, "Murray, Darlene" <Darlene.Murray@mail.house.gov>, "Fisher, Pat" <Pat.Fisher@mail.house.gov>, "Featherson, Wendy" <Wendy.Featherson@mail.house.gov>, "Pittman, Megan" <MPittman@mail.house.gov>, "King, Lalla" <Lalla.King@mail.house.gov>, "Resendez, Marvene" <Marvene.Resendez@mail.house.gov>, "Kalinga, Tatyana" <Tatyana.Kalinga@mail.house.gov>, "Taylor, Gerri" <Gerri.Taylor@mail.house.gov>, "Anderson, Kwamma (Waters)" <Kwamma.Anderson@mail.house.gov>, "Howie, Elisa" <Elisa.Howie@mail.house.gov>, "Borja, Angie" <Angie.Borja@mail.house.gov>, "Roddey, Raven" <raven.roddey@mail.house.gov>, "Waskow, Jean" <Jean.Waskow@mail.house.gov>, "Holmes, Alice M." <Alice.M.Holmes@mail.house.gov>, "Epps, Nkena" <Nkena.Epps@mail.house.gov>, "Johnson, Aya" <Aya.Johnson@mail.house.gov>
 To: <carlb-desk@att.net>
 Cc: <carlb-desk@att.net>
 Subject: Emailing 110th rule change page
 Date: Thu, 4 Oct 2007 16:36:27 +0000

To the CBC Members who indicated a "yes" or "maybe" in attending the Carib News Foundation Business Conference in Antigua, British West Indies on November 8-11 of 2007, I have attached the web site for the travel form that must be submitted by Members no later than **TUESDAY, October 9** to the Ethics Committee. I will be bringing copies of the agenda, as well as copies of the ethics form that Carib News had to complete and submit to Ethics, to all of the offices indicated above, today and tomorrow by noon. If anyone has any questions, please call me at 5-1790. **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT MEMBERS HAVE THEIR OFFICIAL PASSPORT, AS WE ARE GOING TO A FOREIGN COUNTRY.**

The message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments:

Shortcut to: http://www.house.gov/ethics/110th_rule_change_page.htm

Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled.
 <<110th_rule_change_page.url>>

Attachment 1: [110th_rule_change_page.url](#) (application/octet-stream)

New Travel Regulations, Forms, and Instructions (effective March 1, 2007):

The House Rules for the 110th Congress changed the travel rules for Members, staff, and outside sponsors. Regulations, forms, and instructions governing privately-sponsored travel taking place after March 1, 2007 are available below. An Advisory Memorandum providing additional guidance regarding travel was released on March 15, 2007. New versions of the forms relating to privately-sponsored travel were released April 6, 2007.

- Travel Guidelines and Regulations
- Instructions and Certification Form to be filled out by Private Sponsors
- Traveler Form to be filled out by Members, Officers, and Employees
- Post-Travel Disclosure Form for Members and Officers
- Post-Travel Disclosure Form for Employees

Please note: Both the Private Sponsor Certification and the Member/Officer/Employee Traveler Forms must be filed with the Committee at the same time in order to process your request.

New Gift Rule Changes:

The House Rules for the 110th Congress amended House Rule 25, Clause 5 (the "gift rule") with respect to the acceptance of gifts and travel. Some of the guidance on this website regarding gifts and travel may therefore no longer apply. On February 6, 2007, the Committee issued an advisory memorandum on the changes to the gift rule. On May 24, 2007, the House amended the gift rule exception concerning the acceptance of offers of free attendance at charity events. In view of the amendment, on June 14, 2007, the Committee issued a revised memorandum that incorporates the change to the rule. Please contact Committee staff at 202-225-7103 with any questions.

Financial Interests under New Earmark Rules

The House Rules for the 110th Congress changed the Code of Official Conduct regarding earmarks. This provision requires that a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner who requests an earmark or a limited tax or tariff benefit to provide certain information regarding the request and its purpose to the committee of jurisdiction. An Advisory Memorandum providing guidance in this matter was released on March 27, 2007.

Registration

From: Smith, Hillary [Hillary.Smith@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2007 4:32 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Travel Approval Forms for Antigua Trip

Patricia,

Here is what I need fixed --

12 -- Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting this trip -- The answer should say something about how Carib News organized, planned, pulled together the invitee list and chose the destination.

13 -- Describe the organizational interest -- It is the Carib News Annual conference.

The revised forms, along with the list of invitees, should be sent to each invitee to then send to the committee so that we do not receive the wrong forms from the Congressional offices. Let me know if you have any questions.

Hillary Smith

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol

Washington, DC 20515

202-225-7103

10/4/2007

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2007 2:02 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Please read query below

Ignore the last email b/c we are working to meet the 30-day submission. Just stand by so we can get back in touch today; have it all resolved tomorrow. Monday is a holiday.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2007 12:39 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Please read query below

Thank you. We have assigned your review to Staff Attorney Susan Olson. Please reach her by phone at 202/226-8808 next week if she has not reached out to you. She will need a few days of review. Thank you very much.

From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycarbnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 6:40 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Please read query below

The Conference dates are November 8-11, 2007, and opens on Thursday November 8 and ends the morning of November 11, 2007 - (3 nights)

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is the Sponsor of the event.

Item No. 12: The companies like Pfizer, AT&T are donors/contributors of grants to the Foundation for educational purposes and NOT the SPONSOR, consequently I assume the information contained in that item will have to be changed.

Awaiting your advice.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM

10/3/2007

09-6333 0185

Registration

From: plouis [plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 6:40 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Please read query below

The Conference dates are November 8-11, 2007, and opens on Thursday November 8 and ends the morning of November 11, 2007. (3 nights)

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is the Sponsor of the event.

Item No. 12: The companies like Pfizer, AT&T are donors/contributors of grants to the Foundation for educational purposes and **NOT the SPONSOR**, consequently I assume the information contained in that item will have to be changed.

Awaiting your advice.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Please read query below

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:08 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Query

We are trying to work through a problem in approving the co-sponsors place. Are they each paying for a one-day, widely attended event or more days? Please read the Gift Rules I forwarded you on this matter.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2007 12:42 PM
To: plouis

Please forward the paperwork as well to the Chairwoman's personal office so her scheduler can complete the work from that office. Please get it to Lalla King today. Her fax number is 202/225-1339. She has to complete the Member's forms and meet the same deadline.

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 6:40 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Please read query below

The Conference dates are November 8-11, 2007, and opens on Thursday November 8 and ends the morning of November 11, 2007- (3 nights)

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is the Sponsor of the event.

Item No. 12. The companies like Pfizer, AT&T are donors/contributors of grants to the Foundation for educational purposes and NOT the SPONSOR, consequently I assume the information contained in that item will have to be changed.

Awaiting your advice.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Please read query below

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Please read query below

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:08 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Query

We are trying to work through a problem in approving the co-sponsors piece. Are they each paying for a one-day, widely attended event or more days? Please read the Gift Rules I forwarded you on this matter.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2007 12:42 PM
To: plouis
Subject: Query

I am working through your forms before leaving them with our staff attorney and have a question. Query: Why did you not list CARIB NEWS as the sponsor as you'd indicated instead of Macy's, etc. The official sponsor for travel, lodging, and planning is still Carib News, correct?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2007 12:57 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007 Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

When you send the draft agenda, please also forward any information on your sponsor's status. It/he cannot be a lobbyist. Do you need a copy of the new travel rules?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 5:53 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007 Business Conference

Nothing was attached to this email. Therefore, we have not received the proposed agenda you mention below and have nothing to preview.

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 3:47 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: Draft Program - 2007 Business Conference

Ms. Mobley:
We spoke earlier re permission for Members to attend the Conference and you asked for

The program, I have not gotten back to you because we have been working on getting the program together.
Attached is the draft for your guidance.

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018.



THE NEW YORK CARIBNEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 4th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089

E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Dawn Kelly Mobley	FROM: Patricia Louis
COMPANY:	DATE: 9/21/07
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: SPONSOR FORMS	
<input type="checkbox"/> URGENT <input type="checkbox"/> FOR REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE REPLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION	

Following is a completed form for your advisement /review/ comments:

Regards

Patricia Louis

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

Carlb News Foundatin

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): _____
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary); each representatives spouse is invited or one family member.

6. Dates of travel: November 8-11, 2007
7. Cities of departure -- destination -- return: Varies depending on member
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during this travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was de minimis under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
 - a. One night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two nights' lodging and meals are being offered:If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: Pfizer-Education/Health
AT&T and IBM - provide technology to the region, MACYS - seeks new vendor sources, Citibank - opportunities
in the region.

13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: Regular scheduled air service,
economy class.

14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted:

15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):

16. I represent that either (check one of the following):
a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: or
b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation:
If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____

17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: A Caribbean country that has not previously
hosted the conference.

18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: Sandals Resort/Rex Resort

19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$110.00

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: Has appropriate meeting rooms.

21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	320	330	195
For each accompanying family member	320	0	195

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee		
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Name and title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

Fax number: _____

Email Address: _____

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
 U.S. House of Representatives
 RT-2, The Capitol
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)
 (202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT THE PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL
CERTIFICATION FORM.

1. *Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip):* Fill in the names of each person, organization, or other entity contributing funds or in-kind support towards the trip.
2. *I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent:* House Members and staff may not accept travel funded by a lobbyist or registered foreign agent, even when the lobbyist or foreign agent will be reimbursed by a client or employer.
3. *I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip:* All financial contributors to the trip must qualify as sponsors and should be listed as a sponsor in response to question 1.
4. *Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?* Check yes or no. House Rules permit Members and House staff to accept travel benefits for one accompanying family member if offered by the trip sponsor.
5. *Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited:* You must list every House Member and employee who is invited on the trip, together with your reason for inviting that individual. Members and House staff may accept privately sponsored travel only when related to the individual's official duties. The explanation should demonstrate a connection between the trip and each invitee's official duties.
6. *Dates of Travel:* State the dates of departure and return.
7. *Cities of departure - destination - return:* For example, an appropriate entry might read: "DC - Detroit - DC". Include additional destinations if there will be more than one. Do not list the names of airports, times of flights, or cities where travelers will have an airport layover (this information should be included in the attached detailed agenda).
8. *Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel:* The agenda should be a detailed, hour-by-hour agenda. Include the names of speakers and the subjects of briefings. The agenda should also include information regarding the time spent on travel to and from the destination, as well as local travel. Travel will not be approved if the agenda includes an excessive amount of either unscheduled time and/or opportunities for recreational activities, even if such activities are at the personal expense of the invitees.

9. *I represent that (check one of the following):* Check only one box in response to this question. "Institutions of higher education" generally includes accredited public and private colleges or trade schools located in the U.S. and its territories; such entities should check box "a," regardless of whether they employ or retain a federal lobbyist or foreign agent. Entities other than institutions of higher education that do not employ or retain a federal lobbyist or foreign agent should check box "b." Entities other than institutions of higher education that do employ or retain a registered lobbyist or foreign agents may sponsor travel only for one-day events. For such trips, lobbyist involvement must be "de minimis" as defined by Committee regulations (see question 12).
10. *If travel is for participation in a one-day event, check one of the following:* Complete this question only if you checked box "c" in response to question 9. For travel to one-day events sponsored by an entity that retains or employs a lobbyist, lodging and meals generally may be provided only for one night. However, two nights may be authorized by the Committee in accordance with the factors set forth in Committee regulations.
11. *If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip:* House Rules prohibit Members and employees from being accompanied by registered lobbyists or foreign agents while traveling. This rule does not prohibit lobbyist or foreign agent participation in briefings or meetings that occur at the destination.
12. *Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:* The sponsor(s) (the entity or entities paying for the trip) should be the entity primarily responsible for organizing the trip. Travel may not be accepted from an entity that merely contributes money towards the travel and is not otherwise involved in planning or conducting the trip.
13. *Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip:* Briefly describe the interest or purpose of each sponsor in the trip.
14. *Describe the type and class of transportation being provided:* See directions on form.
15. *I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s):* While Members and staff may accept local transportation necessary in facilitating their participation in officially-connected aspects of a trip, Members and staff may not accept local transportation in connection with recreation or entertainment.
16. *I represent that either:* For events that are arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation (e.g., annual meetings of business or trade associations), Members or employees may accept the meals that are provided to all other attendees as part of the event. For events put on specifically for Members or staff, meal expenses must be "reasonable" in accordance with Committee regulations.

17. *Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:* The destination of a trip must be related to its purpose. Travel to a location of an event organized without regard to congressional participation (for example, annual meetings of business or trade associations) is presumptively reasonable.
18. *Name of hotel or other lodging facility:* Include the names of all hotels and lodging facilities to be used during the trip.
19. *Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility:* Self-explanatory. Trip sponsors should not pay for a "package" that includes recreational or entertainment activities. However, Members and staff may generally use a pool or gym facilities that are offered free of charge to all hotel guests.
20. *Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:* For events held without regard to congressional participation (e.g., annual meetings of business or trade associations), an entry such as "location of annual trade association meeting" is sufficient. When the trip is held specifically for Members or staff, include rationales such as proximity to the site to be visited or to the airport.
21. *Total Expenses for Each Participant:* Indicate whether the figures provided are actual amounts or good faith estimates by checking the appropriate box. All trip expenses should be included. Expenses other than those for transportation, lodging and meals must be individually listed and specified.
22. *I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip:* Members and staff may not accept a lump sum based on an estimate of incidental expenses.
23. *Certification Information:* Self-explanatory.

THE TRIP SPONSOR SHOULD PROVIDE A COPY OF THE COMPLETED FORM, INCLUDING ALL ATTACHMENTS, TO EACH HOUSE MEMBER OR EMPLOYEE INVITED ON THE TRIP.

Version Date 4/2007 Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT
Washington, DC 20515

October 27, 2006

Mr. Michele Rodney
Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

Dear Mr. Rodney:

This responds to your letter requesting Committee guidance concerning the participation of House Members in the 11th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference ("Conference") sponsored by the Carib News Foundation ("Foundation"), and other organizations. The conference is scheduled to take place in Panama City, Panama from November 9 to 12, 2006. According to your submission, the Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]," which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct strongly encourages outside organizations considering whether to offer travel expenses to House Members and staff to contact our office for information about the rules governing the acceptance of such an offer. It is important to bear in mind, however, that the Committee is authorized by the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives to render advisory opinions to Members, officers, and employees regarding the propriety of current or proposed conduct. We do not render such opinions to private organizations. Particularly in the case of travel, it is the Member, officer, or employee who is at risk in the case of a violation of the rules. Given the different circumstances in which individual Members and employees find themselves, it would be inappropriate for an outside organization to suggest that a trip had been "pre-cleared" by the Committee. However, we are able to provide you with some general information.

¹ According to your submission, the additional trip sponsors include Macy's, Jerk QZine, Pfizer, AT&T, Golden Reef Franchise, American Airlines, Citibank, IBM, Panama City, and the Republic of Panama.

Ms. Michalis Rodney
 October 27, 2006
 Page 2

House Rule 25, clause 5 (the gift rule) permits a Member or employee of the House to accept from a private source (other than a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal) the necessary travel expenses to attend a meeting, speaking engagement, fact-finding trip, or similar event in connection with official duties, if the private source is directly and immediately associated with the event or location being visited. "Necessary" expenses include reasonable expenses for transportation, lodging, food, and refreshments, but they do not include expenditures for entertainment or recreational activities.

Generally, any gifts that may be offered during the trip, including any gifts of entertainment or recreational activity, must be valued at a total of less than \$50 for the trip, with the annual gift limit of less than \$100 from a single source. On any trip, the aggregate value of any such gifts that may be accepted from any source is less than \$50.

In the case of international travel, necessary expenses may be accepted for not more than seven days, excluding travel. House Members may also accept expenses to enable one family member to accompany them on the trip, if offered by the trip sponsor. In addition, each Member who participates in the trip must complete a Travel Disclosure and file this form with the Clerk of the House within 30 days after their return. See House Rule 25, cl. 5(h)(1)(A)(ii), (h)(3). Members are also required to report all travel expenses totaling more than \$305 from a single source on Schedule VII of their annual Financial Disclosure Statement under the Ethics in Government Act and House Rule 26. On both forms, Members should indicate as the "trip sponsors" all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip.

Because the trip will involve meetings with foreign government representatives and the trip sponsors include the Republic of Panama and Panama City, it is important to note that government officials, including Members and employees of Congress, are prohibited by Article I, section 9, clause 8, of the United States Constitution from receiving "any present . . . of any kind whatever" from a foreign state or a representative of a foreign government without the consent of the Congress. In the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (5 U.S.C. § 7342) ("FGDA"), Congress has consented in advance to acceptance of gifts of travel or expenses for travel taking place entirely outside of the United States offered by a foreign government. Gifts of travel or expenses for travel include food, lodging, transportation, and entertainment related to the official duties of a Member, officer, or employee. Congress has also consented to the acceptance of gifts "of minimal value tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy." 5 U.S.C. § 7342(e)(1)(A). Under this provision and implementing regulations issued by this Committee, the term "minimal value" is defined as \$305. The FGDA also permits Members and staff to accept a gift worth more than minimal value when refusal would cause offense or embarrassment; such gifts are the property of the United States and must be deposited with the Clerk of the House. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value or travel expenses of any value received from a foreign government pursuant to FGDA must be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments, in addition to the

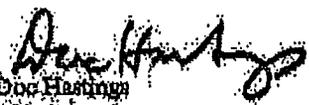
Ms. Michele Rodney
October 27, 2006
Page 3.

travel disclosure form described above. Copies of both forms are available on the Committee Web site.

Any House Members invited to travel at private expense should be encouraged to contact this Committee's Office of Advice and Education at (202) 225-7103 if they have any questions on the applicable rules. Please provide a copy of this letter to each invited Member.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,


Don Hastings
Chairman


Howard L. Berman
Ranking Minority Member

DE/HLB: slo



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

October 16, 2006

The Honorable Doc Hastings
Chair
Standards of Official Conduct
Rm. HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Via Fax: 202-225-7392 & US Mail

Dear Committee Chair Hastings:

As you might be aware, The Carib News Foundation, created to provide a forum for businesses from the United States to dialogue and establish business partnerships with communities in other parts of the world, has invited Members of Congress to participate in the 11th anniversary of the Caribbean Business Conference.

This year the conference will be held in Panama City, Panama from November 9 – 12, 2006. In cooperation with the Government of Panama, our goal is to have all interested parties joining forces to foster an atmosphere of democracy, stability and opportunity for our fellow citizens of the world. It will also allow businesses in the United States to introduce their products to a new market, thus adding to the economy of both countries.

It is important for Members of Congress to attend in order to get insights into the global economy and how current law and proposed legislation can add in assisting their constituents to move towards a global exchange.

To this effort, The Carib News Foundation and its Board of Directors, respectfully request approval for the Members to attend. If there are any questions or concerns, you may contact me at 212-944-1991. I look forward to making this event as successful in its 11th year as it has been in the past 10 conferences.

Sincerely,

Michelo Rodney
President
Carib News Foundation

cc: Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs-Jones

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C-3 corporation

Registration

From: plouls [plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2007 1:56 PM
To: 'Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Re Sponsorship Information

The official sponsor of the conference is the CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION, a not-for-profit 501C3 Organization that provides educational information about the Caribbean Region and its relationship with the US in doing business and developing good neighborly ties with the United States, security, health, education etc.

The CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION does not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent.

Please use me as your contact for the purposes of this Conference.

The form will be emailed to you this afternoon.

Regards
Patricia Louis

Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

9/21/2007

09-6333 0201

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000087

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 6:32 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Sponsorship information

My condolences. No, we did not know of their loss. Is Mr. Rodney our actual contact in this matter? If so when appropriate, please impress upon him that the rules have changed dramatically and there are certain gifts and travel that can no longer be permitted so we need to clear this as early as possible. Moreover as he probably remembers, all Members have to seek approval for their individual travel...forms must be prepared, submitted, and approved for each Member's travel. Therefore, please remember to provide each of your invitees with the requisite paperwork. Hopefully by preparing early, we can circumvent the majority of problems you faced in securing their congressional travel last year. Have a good evening and please share my condolences with the Rodney's. Dawn

Sent using BlackBerry

-----Original Message-----

From: plouls <plouls@nycaribnews.com>
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wed Sep 19 18:23:58 2007
Subject: Sponsorship information

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 3:23 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Lastly, just send the sponsor form asap for review. The new rules might prohibit some things you were able to do with so many different sponsors in the past, but until we get the form, we can't make the most informed decision. I have let the Congresswomen know we are awaiting your sponsor form. Just as you do, they would also like assurance. Thank you.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 3:09 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

I am mailing (US Postal) a copy of the official Gifts and Travel Guide. Some pages are omitted so call with any questions not addressed in the bound pages. I am using the address you provide in your emails.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 2:16 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Patricia:

I understand that several organizations will take part in sponsoring food and other parts of the Antigua travel. However, I need clarification on the official sponsor; that organization providing travel, lodging, and organizing the trip? Am I to assume it is CARIB NEWS? The official sponsoring organization must not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent (and the sponsor must have a direct and immediate relationship with the event or location being visited). To assist with this, I am scanning information/guidelines and emailing in just a moment. Please provide a fax number if that method of submital will be more helpful. If there is someone handling this matter, please provide me their direct contact information as I must ensure adherence to these new guidelines pre-travel.

In any event, I do need to know who the official sponsor will be. I have assigned a staff attorney to review your documents and will remain in contact with you until this matter is finalized.

Please respond today or tomorrow at the latest. I will be traveling for a while thereafter and must ensure that my staff attorney has all that is necessary for a safe review.

Dawn Kelly Mobley
Ethics Counsel for Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones
Chairwoman, Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
202/226-7103

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2007 7:03 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

~~Do any of these organizations have a website?~~

We had received the forms from Shelley.

The sponsors to date are : MACYS, PFIZER, AMERICAN AIRLINES, GOLDEN KRUST BAKERY, CARIBBEAN FOOD DELIGHTS, PREFERRED HEALTH PARTNERS, IBM, AT&T/CINGULAR

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2007 12:57 PM

To: plouls

Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

When you send the draft agenda, please also forward any information on your sponsor's status. If he cannot be a lobbyist. Do you need a copy of the new travel rules?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn

Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 5:53 PM

To: 'plouls'

Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference

Nothing was attached to this email. Therefore, we have not received the proposed agenda you mention below and have nothing to preview.

From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycaribnews.com]

Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 3:47 PM

To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn

Subject: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference

Ms. Mobley:

We spoke earlier re permission for Members to attend the Conference and you asked for The program. I have not gotten back to you because we have been working on getting the program together.

Attached is the draft for your guidance

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

9/20/2007

09-6333 0204

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000090

Exhibit 18

**U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct**

**PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)**

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):

3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No

5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): EACH REPRESENTATIVE'S SPOUSE

6. Dates of travel: NOVEMBER 8 - 11, 2007

7. Cities of departure -- destination -- return: VARIES DEPENDING ON MEMBER

8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):

9. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.

10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
 - a. One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered:
 If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (SEE ATTACHED SHEET)

13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: THE INTEREST OF CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION IS TO PROMOTE, INFORMATION, TRADE AND MEANINGFUL CONNECTION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE CARIBBEAN

14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted: REGULAR SCHEDULED AIR SERVICE, ECONOMY CLASS

15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):

16. I represent that either (check one of the following):

a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: or

b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation:
If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____

17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: A CARIBBEAN COUNTRY THAT HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY HOSTED THE CONFERENCE

18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: SANDALS RESORT/REX RESORT

19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$100.00

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: HAS APPROPRIATE MEETING ROOMS

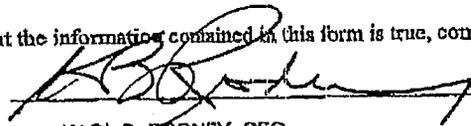
21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	320	330	105
For each accompanying family member	320	0	105

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee		
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

Address: 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10018

Telephone number: 212-944-1991

Fax number: 212-944-2089

Email Address: CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
 U.S. House of Representatives
 HRT-2, The Capitol
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)
 (202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

2007 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE			
NOVEMBER 8 -11, 2007			
INVITED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS			
Sanford Bishop			
G. K. Butterfield			
Donna M. Christensen			
William Lacy Clay			
Sheila Jackson Lee			
Eddie Bernice Johnson			
Kendrick Meek			
Donald Payne			
Charles Rangel			
Bennie Thompson			
Stephanie Tubbs-Jones			
Carolyn Kilpatrick			
Barbara Lee			
Gregory Meeks			
Edolphus Towns			
Yvette Clarke			
Maxine Waters			
James Clyburn			
David Scott			
Laura Richardson			
Eleanor Holmes-Norton			
Elijah Cummings			
Diane Watson			
Keith Ellison			
Henry Johnson			
Melvin Watt			
Albert Wynn			
John Lewis			

10/24/2007 19:00 21.29442089

2007 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE			
NOVEMBER 8-11, 2007			
INVITED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS			
Sanford Bishop			
G. K. Butterfield			
Donna M. Christensen			
William Lacy Clay			
Shella Jackson Lee			
Eddie Bernice Johnson			
Keridrick Meek			
Donald Payne			
Charles Rangel			
Bernie Thompson			
Stephanie Tubbs-Jones			
Carolyn Kilpatrick			
Barbara Lee			
Gregory Meeks			
Edolphus Towns			
Yvette Clarke			
Maxine Waters			
James Clyburn			
David Scott			
Laura Richardson			
Eleanor Holmes-Norton			
Elijah Cummings			
Diane Watson			
Keith Ellison			
Henry Johnson			
Melvin Watt			
Albert Wynn			
John Lewis			
Britt Wainstock			
George Dalley			



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

Exhibit 19

WORKING DRAFT

17th Annual Caribbean Multi-National

Business Conference Program

Antigua & Barbuda

Thursday November 8, 2007

12:00 noon - 6:00 pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -

12:00 noon - 5:30 pm

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Venue

Theme

WTO - RULES BASED TRADE & POVERTY REDUCTION

Speakers

Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Hon. Dr. Errol Cort - Minister of Finance & The Economy

Moderator

Wallace Ford

Facilitator

MEC Interns

Sponsor

ED

6:30 - 7:30 pm

OPENING RECEPTION

Venue:

Sandals Grande

Theme:

CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES

Sponsor:

Antigua Government

MC: Sabrina Hosang

Speakers: Paye A. Rodney - President CARIB NEWS

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

7:50 - 9:50 pm

Venue: Sandals Grande

Theme: COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Sponsor: SANDALS

Moderator: Hon. Nick Perry, New York State Assemblyman

Speakers: Hon. Butch Stewart, Chairman, Sandals

Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress

Hon. Harold Lowell - Minister of Tourism & Aviation

Entertainment:

10:00pm - 1:00am: Hospitality Area

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsors: Royal Caribbean Bakery

Friday, November 9, 2007

8:00am - 8:45am: BREAKFAST - Buffet Style

9:00am - 6:00pm: CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

9:00am - 10:15am: OPENING CEREMONIES

Venue: Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Theme: CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES, COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Sponsor: CHIT/HE/MACY/STAT

MC

Invocation:

Anthem:

Speakers:

Eric Eve

Karen Boykin-Towns

Ed Goldberg

Marie Long

Hazel Dukas - NAACP

Speakers: Hon. Ergo Cort - Minister of Finance & the Economy

Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress

Ambassador Andrew Young

Hon. Louise Lake Tack - Governor General of Antigua

OR

Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Ribbon Cutting

10:30am - 11:45am - PRESENTATION

Theme: DEVELOPMENT BANKS, PRIVATE DEBT AND EQUITY

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsors: CITI

Chair/Moderator: Jacqueline Banks

Speaker: Hon. Marine Waters - Member of Congress

Hon. William Lacy Clay - Member of Congress

Hon. Compton Bourne - President, CDB

Caribbean Minister of Finance - FBD

12:00noon - 1:15pm

Theme: NATIONAL SECURITY : A PRE-CONDITION FOR SUCCESS

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsors: HSBC

Moderator: Dr. Basil Wilson

Remarks: Reginald Canal

Keynote Speaker: Hon. Bennie Thompson - Member of Congress

Panelists: Hon. William Lacy Clay Jr. - Member of Congress

Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Hon. Colin V. A. Denick - Minister of Justice

Attorney Sanford Rubenstein

12:00noon - 1:15 pm

Theme

EDUCATION, ES AND CARIBBEAN SYNERGIES

OVERCOME - CHALLENGES

Sponsors

IBM

Remarks

Marilyn Johnson

Speakers

Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President Medgar Evers College

Hon. Donald Payne - Member of Congress

Hon. Bertrand Joseph

Hon. G. K. Butterfield - Member of Congress

1:30 - 2:00 p.m.

LUNCH

Theme

CARIBBEAN TRADE COMPETITIVENESS AND POSITIONING

Venue

Sandals Grande

Sponsors

Goodworks International

Remarks

Carlton Masters

Keynote Speaker

Hon. Billie Miller - Minister of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade

Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

3:00pm - 4:00pm

ROUND TABLES

IMMIGRATION

Venue

Moderator

Dr. Marco Mason

Speakers

Hon. Sheila Jackson Lee - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Hon. Kendall Stewart - City Council member

Sponsor

Royal Caribbean Cruises

DIVERSITY IN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

MACY'S - Outside Vendors

Ed Goldberg

Cheryl Monroe

State Senator Kevin Parker

City Council member Al Wann

Sponsor - MACY'S

HAITI - IN TRANSFORMATION

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvonne Graham

Preferred Health Partners

PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES

Moderator : Lance Ogiste

Hon. Bennie Thompson

Dr. Basil Wilson

Venue

Sponsor

Preferred Health Partners

Speakers

Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress

Hon. Eliot Engel - Member of Congress

CARICOM Rep. - JBD

Venue

Sponsor

Goodworks International

Speaker

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress
CARICOM REP. - JBD

4:00pm - 5:30pm

Venue

Off Site

Theme

HEALTH - COMMON ISSUES - PROVEN SOLUTIONS

Sponsor

Pfizer

Remarks

Karen Boykin-Towns

Moderator

Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

Keynote Speakers: Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Hon. Dr. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Hon. John Herbert Maginley - Minister of Health, Sports & Youth

Dr. Dexter McKenzie

Facilitator - MEC Intern

Co-D

6:30:00pm - 10:00 pm - HOST COUNTRY EVENING

Hosted by Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer

**** MANDATORY FOR ALL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO ATTEND**

Venue

Off Site

Sponsor

Antigua & Barbuda

10:00pm - 1:00am

Hospitality Area

Venue:

Sandals Grande

Sponsor:

Golden Krust

Saturday, November 10, 2007

8:00am - 10:00am

Venue:

Sandals Grande

Theme:

WOMEN AND EMPOWERMENT IN THE DIASPORA

Sponsors:

MACYS

Remarks - Brenda Scott - Macy's

MC - Marilyn Johnson

Speakers - Michele Obama (invited)

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Hon. Diane Abbott - Member of Parliament, UK

Baroness Patricia Scotland - Attorney General, UK (invited)

Harriet Michel - President NMSDC

Governor General - Dame Louise Jackson

10:15am - 11:45pm - PRESENTATION

Theme - HEALTH - REAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN UPGRADING

CARE AND DELIVERY

Venue - Sandals Grande

Sponsors - Pfizer

Greeting - Karen Boykin-Towns - Pfizer

Chair/Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham

Keynote - Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Panelists - Dr. Dexter McKenzie

Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Dr. Lesly Kernisan

Dr. Marcia Bayne-Smith

Caribbean person - TBD

10:15am - 11:45am

Theme: TRAVEL & TOURISM EXPANSION - THE DIASPORAS

CATALYST

Venue

Sponsors

Chair/Moderator

Speakers

AMERICAN AIRLINES/SANDALS

Hoyt Williams

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress

Hon. Keith Ellison - Member of Congress

Hon. Allan Chastanet - Minister of Tourism, St. Lucia

Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Tourism, Antigua & Barbuda

10:15 am - 11:45 am PRESENTATION

Theme

TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION - SHARING

Venue

Sandals Grande

Sponsors

AT&T

Remarks

Marie Long

Keynote Speakers:

Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Dr. Edmond Mansour - Member of State

12:00 noon - 1:15pm

Theme: INTEGRATING THE DIASPORA IN BUSINESS - INVESTORS - MANAGERS, MENTORS & TRAINERS

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsor: HSBC

Remarks: JAVIER LAVIS

Speakers: Hon. Compton Bourne

Hon. Carolyn Cheeks-Kilpatrick - Member of Congress

Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress

Hon. William Lacy Clay Jr. - Member of Congress

1:30pm - 2:30pm : LUNCH

Theme: FINANCE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

AND ROLE

Sponsors: CITI

Remarks: Michael Hanigan

Speakers: Eric Eve - CITI

Hon. William Thompson, New York City Comptroller

2:30pm - 6:30pm

Optional:

3:00pm - 4:00pm : ROUND TABLE

Venue

Round Table #1

Theme

Venue

Sponsors

Remarks

Speakers

CARIBBEAN - A COMPETITIVE HEALTH CARE DESTINATION

Preferred Health Partners

Dr. Lesly Kermissan

Dr. Dexter McKenzie

Dr. Lorna McBarrette

Round Table #2

Theme

Speakers

Venue

Sponsor

HEMISPHERIC DISASTER FUND

Hon. Danny Davis - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Dr. Roy Hastick

Round Table #3

Theme

Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress

Karlisa Rodney

Lita Baham

CLOSING THE GENERATION GAP

Sabrina Hosang

Winthrop, Wellington

Venue

SPONSOR

Roundtable #4

Theme

PASSPORT & ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRAINTS ON TOURISM

Venue

Sponsor : American Airlines

Speakers

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress
Hon. Harold Lowell - Minister of Tourism
Mr. Lloyd Williams

Sponsor

: CARIB NEWS

4:00pm - 5:30pm

COMMUNITY OUTREACH -

EDUCATION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION

Venue:

Off Site

Sponsor

CITI

Moderator:

Michael Flanigan

Speakers:

Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College

Hon. Danny Davis - Member of Congress

Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Hon. Bertrand Joseph

Facilitator: MBC Intern

ED

6:30 - 7:30 pm GALA RECEPTIONS

Venue:

Sponsor: AT&T-HSBC

Speaker: Hon. Billie Miller, Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Minister of Government - Antigua

Theme:

7:30 - 10:00 pm GALA DINNER & AWARDS

Theme:

Venue:

Sponsors

CITY/MACY'S/PFIZER

Speakers

Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

Hon. James Clyburn - Member of Congress

Keynote Speaker :

Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Presentation of the Marcus Garvey "Bridge Builder" Awards

Hospitality Area

10:30 pm - 1:00 am

Venue:

Sponsor: Royal Caribbean Bakery

Sunday, November 11, 2007

8:50 am - 10:00 am

POWER BREAKFAST

Theme

UNDERSTANDING THE SPIRITUAL ROOTS AND
MAKING IT WORK

Sponsors:

Golden Krust/Macys

Celebrant:

Ed Goldberg

Lowell Hawthorne

Caribbean person - TBD

Selection

Theme:

Selection:

11:00am

} Paid Trip to Montserrat - Transportation (Ferry) - Lunch and
Special Tour. Addressed by Chief Minister Lowell Lewis

8:00 pm

10/3/07

OFF-PUBLIC-SCHEDULE-MANDATORY FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Friday November 9, 2007

5:30 - 6:30 p.m. - Private Welcome Reception with Governor General

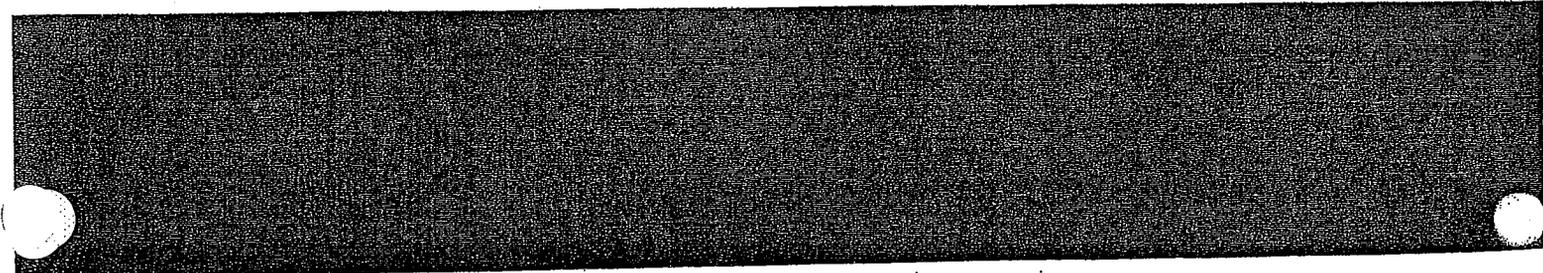
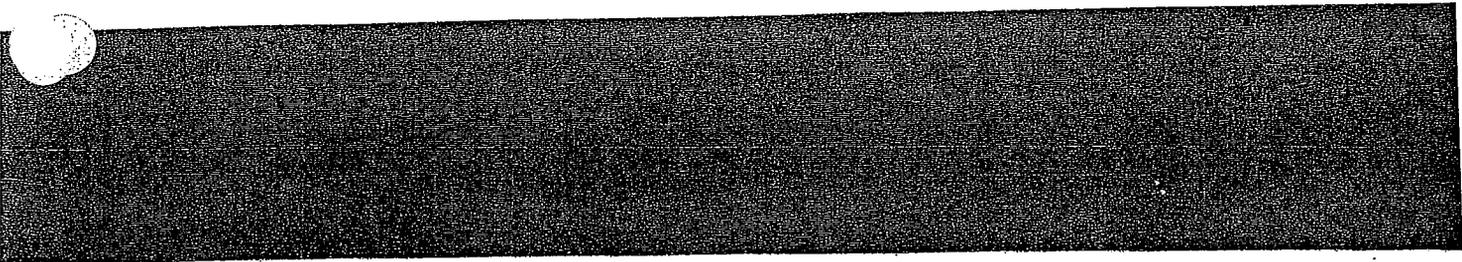
Saturday November 10, 2007

US-CARIBBEAN RELATIONS

11:00 a.m. - 1:00pm - Closed Door Meeting
(Mandatory for all Members)

Prime Ministers & Ministers of Government
with Members of Congress
Secretary of State - Condoleezza Rice (Invited)

5:30pm - 6:30pm - Private Meeting with Local Elected Officials and
the Business Community



[The text in this section is almost entirely obscured by heavy horizontal black redaction bars. Only faint, illegible traces of text are visible through the bars.]

Exhibit 20

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative 1 from Macy's
Review #: 09-6333; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-2222
Date: May 27, 2009
Location: 11 Penn Plaza
New York, NY 10001
Time: 11:10pm to 12:00 p.m. (approximately)
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: Representative 1 from Macy's is the Senior Vice President of Government and Consumer Affairs and Diversity Vendor Development at Macy's, Inc. He was interviewed pursuant to Review 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. We requested an interview with Representative 1 from Macy's and he consented to an interview. Representative 1 from Macy's made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative 1 from Macy's was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. Representative 1 from Macy's signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. [attached]
2. Representative 1 from Macy's met Karl and Faye Rodney in 1996. As a result of the large Caribbean Community in New York City and Macy's commercial interests in the Caribbean region, Representative 1 from Macy's asked Macy's advertising division to consider the CaribNews newspaper.
3. The first conference he attended was in 1998 in St. Lucia. He attended as a participant. At the time, Macy's was considering a store in Puerto Rico and so Representative 1 from Macy's was especially interested in business in the region. He was impressed by how many government officials from the Caribbean region were present at the conference and by what they had to say about developing relationships with the United States.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

4. In the ensuing years, Macy's became a sponsor. The conference was a place where the company looked for vendors and designers. It was also a place where they could hear from U.S. legislators about their thoughts on the region. It was also a place for Representative 1 from Macy's to connect with U.S. companies who were attending.
5. Macy's first sponsored the conference in 2000. Over the years they have sponsored the event on an annual basis at varying levels, ranging from \$10,000 to \$35,000. As women's issues are particularly important to Macy's, given their clientele, their sponsorship focuses on the conference's "Women's Power Breakfast." The event was described as very lavish. All attendees of the breakfast also get a Macy's tote bag.
6. In 2008, Macy's contribution to the conference was \$35,000 in cash and an in-kind contribution of 400 tote bags. The total value of the in-kind contribution was \$4,620. The money was earmarked specifically for the conference.
7. As a sponsor, Macy's was given the opportunity to have a representative make opening remarks, to have representation at the Women's Power Breakfast, have input into who the speaker at the breakfast will be, and attend the closed door session with Members of Congress and officials from the Caribbean governments. Representative 1 from Macy's did in fact attend the closed door session in 2008. He recalled that other corporate sponsors also attended the meeting, but he could not recall which ones.
8. Representative 1 from Macy's recalled interacting with Representative Payne, Representative Kilpatrick, Representative Thompson, Representative Rangel, and Delegate Christensen. His interactions were all social in nature.
9. Representative 1 from Macy's was not aware of any other events sponsored by or planned by the CaribNews Foundation. With the exception of the conference, he was not aware of any other instances when Macy's supported a CaribNews Foundation event. Given Representative 1 from Macy's position within the company, it is very likely he would know if Macy's had done so.

I prepared this Memorandum of Interview on May 28, 2009 after interviewing Representative 1 from Macy's on May 27, 2009. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with Representative 1 from Macy's on May 27, 2009.

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature : _____

Date: _____

5/27/08

For Office Use:

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 21

Updated Schedule
Pan Carib News
PAGE 83

WORKING DRAFT 10/22

12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
Antigua & Barbuda

Thursday, November 8, 2007

12:00noon- 6:00pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -

5:00 - 6:30am - COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Venue - Multi-Purpose Cultural Centre - Ferry Bay, St. John's

Theme - WTO - RIGLES BASED TRADE & POVERTY REDUCTION

Speakers - Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress
 Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
 Hon. Dr. Errol Cox - Minister of Finance & The Economy

Moderator - Tony Best

6:30- 7:30pm - OPENING RECEPTION

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Theme: - CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES

MC: - Judge Sylvia Hinds-Radix

Speakers - Faye A. Rodney - President CARIB NEWS
 Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

7:30 - 9:30 pm -

Theme: - COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom
 Moderator: - Hon. Nick Perry, New York State Assemblyman
 Speakers: - Hon. 'Butch' Stewart, Chairman, Sandals
 Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress
 Hon. Harold Lovell - Minister of Tourism & Aviation

10:00pm - 1:00am: - Hospitality Area
 Venue: Sandals Grande - Reflective Pool

Friday, November 9, 2007

8:00am - 8:45am BREAKFAST - Buffet Style

9:00am - 6:00pm	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
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9:00am - 10:15am - OPENING CEREMONIES

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom
 Theme: - CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES, COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Remarks:

- Eric Ebe
 Dr. Lowell Lewis, Chief Minister
 Montserrat
 Karen Boylin-Towns
 Ed Goldberg
 Marie Long
 Hazel Dukes - NAACP
 William Thompson, NYC Comptroller
 Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Govt. St. Maarten

Greetings

Speakers: Hon. Errol Cort - Minister of Finance & The Economy
 Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress
 Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress

Ambassador Andrew Young
Hon. Louise Lake Tack - Governor General of Antigua
OR
Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Ribbon Cutting

10:30am - 11:45am - . PRESENTATION

Theme: - DEVELOPMENT BANKS, PRIVATE DEBT AND EQUITY

Venue: - Sandals Grande

Chair/Moderator - Dr. Enrique Riggs

Speaker: Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
 Hon. Compton Bourne - President, CDB
 Mr. Milton Lawrence, Chairman Financial Services Corporation
 Mr. Rudolph Caryl
 Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister/Minister of Finance, St. Kitts

10:30 - 11:45am CULTURE - PROMISE & POTENTIAL IN BUSINESS

Remarks :

Speaker: Professor Rex. Nettleford
 Hon. Howard Dotson
 Patrick Payne
 Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Culture

12:00noon - 1:15pm

Theme: - NATIONAL SECURITY: A PRE-CONDITION FOR SUCCESS

Venue: - Sandals Grande

Moderator - Leyland Hazlewood

Remarks: - Reginald Onal

Keynote Speaker: Hon. Bennie Thompson - Member of Congress
 Panelists: - Hon. Dwyer Asaphan, Minister of National Security
 Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
 Hon. Colin V. A. Derrick - Minister of Justice
 Attorney Sanford Rubenstein

12:00noon -1:15pm

Theme - EDUCATION - U. S AND CARIBBEAN SYNERGIES TO
 OVERCOME CHALLENGES
 Remarks - Colin Ward
 Speakers - Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President Medgar Evers College
 Hon. Donald Payne - Member of Congress
 Hon. Bertrand Joseph, Minister of Education

1:30pm -2:30pm

- LUNCH
 Theme: - FINANCE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION'S - VALUE
 AND ROLE
 Remarks - Michael Hanigan
 Speakers - Eric Ewe - CITI
 Hon. William Thompson, New York City Comptroller

3:00pm - 4:00pm -

ROUND TABLES
IMMIGRATION
 Venue: - Sandals Grande
 Moderator - Dr. Marco Mason

Speakers - Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress
 Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
 Hon. Kendall Stewart - City Council member

DIVERSITY IN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

MACY'S - Outside Vendors

Ed Goldberg
 Cheryl Monroe
 State Senator Kevin Parker
 City Councilmember Inez Dickens

HAITI - IN TRANSFORMATION

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
 Hon. Yvonne Graham
 Ambassador Andrew Young

PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES

Moderator : Mr. Lance Ogiste
 Hon. Bennie Thompson
 Hon. Dwer Astephan
 Venue Sandals Grande

Participant - Preferred Health Partners

Speakers - Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress

Venue -

Speaker - Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress ?
CARICOM REP. - TBD

5:00pm - 6:30pm -

Venue: - Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Centre - Perry Bay

Theme - HEALTH - COMMON ISSUES - PROVEN SOLUTIONS - MOVE
Healthy Eating, Healthy Living

Remarks - Ms. Karen Boykin-Towns

Moderator - Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

Keynote Speakers: - Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis
Hon. Dr. Martin Valdes-Preferred Health Partners
Hon. John Herbert Maginley - Minister of Health, Sports & Youth
Dr. John Fulmer
Hon. Diane Watson, Member of Congress

6:30:00pm - 10:00 pm - HOST COUNTRY EVENING
Hosted by Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer

Venue - Multipurpose Cultural and Exhibition Centre - Perry Bay

10:00pm - 1:00am - Hospitality Area

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Reflection Pool

Saturday, November 10, 2007

8:00am - 10:00am

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Theme: - WOMEN AND EMPOWERMENT IN THE DIASPORA

Remarks - Brenda Scott

MC - Marilyn Johnson

Speakers - Hon. Diane Abbott, MP UK

Commissioner Sarah Westcott-Williams,

Hon. Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick, Member of Congress

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Dr. Martella Maxwell

Ms. Toni Fay

Governor General - Dame Louise Lake Tak - check

Ms. Lucille McEwen, President/CEO HCCI

Commissioner Westcott-Williams, Leader of Government

10:15am - 11:45pm - PRESENTATION

Theme - HEALTH - REAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN UPGRADING
CARE AND DELIVERY

Venue - Sandals Grande

Greeting - Karen Boykin-Towne - Pfizer

Chair/Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham

Keynote - Dr. Derril Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Panelists
 Hon. John Herbert McGinley, Minister of Health
 Dr. Marcia Bayne-Smith
 Dr. Carl Kenel Pierre, Preferred Health Partners

10:15am-11:45am

Theme - TRAVEL & TOURISM EXPANSION -THE DIASPORA AS CATALYST

Venue - Sandals Grande

Chair/Moderator - Mr. Lloyd Williams, GHCC

Speakers - Hon. Laura Richardson - Member of Congress
 Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Tourism, Antigua & Barbuda
 Hon. Howard Dotson, Director Schomburg Center

12 noon- 1:15pm

PRESENTATION

Theme - TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION - SHARING

Venue: - Sandals Grande

Remarks - Ms. Marie Long

Keynote Speakers: - Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress
 Hon. Edith Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress
 Dr. Edmund Manseor - Member of State
 Dr. Emmanuel Gonsalves

12:00noon - 1:15pm -

Theme - INTEGRATING THE DIASPORA IN BUSINESS - INVESTORS MANAGERS, MENTORS & TRAINERS

Venue - Sandals Grande
 Moderator - Roy Hastick
 Participant - HSBC
 Remarks - Mr. Javier Evans
 Speakers - Hon. Compton Bourne
 Hon. Adolfo Carrion, Bronx Borough President
 Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress
 Hon. Professor Rex Nettleford

1:30 -2:00 p.m. - LUNCH

Theme - CARIBBEAN TRADE COMPETITIVENESS AND POSITIONING

Venue - Sandals Grande
 Remarks - Wallace Ford - Goodworks International
 Keynote Speaker - Hon. Billie Miller - Minister of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade
 Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

2:30pm - 6:30pm

Optional:

3:00pm - 4:00pm - ROUND TABLE

Venue - Sandals Grande

Round Table #1

Theme : CARIBBEAN - A COMPETITIVE HEALTH CARE DESTINATION

Venue

Remarks : Dr. Lesly Kennisant

Speakers : Dr. Dexter MacKenzie
Hon. Yvonne Graham

Round Table#2

Theme - HEMISPHERIC DISASTER FUND

Venue - Sandals Grande

Speakers Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Mr. Leyland Hazlewood

Mr. Immanuel Gonsalves

Participant -

Round Table#3

Theme - CLOSING THE GENERATION GAP

Speaker - Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Karlisa Rodney

Lita Balam

Sabrina Hosang

Wintropo Wellington

Venue - Sandals Grande

Participant -

Round Table #4

Theme : PASSPORT & ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRAINTS ON TOURISM

Venue : Sandals Grande

Speakers : Hon. Harold Lovell - Minister of Tourism
Mr. Lloyd Williams, GHCC
Hon. Darryl Towns, State Assemblyman

5:00pm - 6:30pm - COMMUNITY OUTREACH -

EDUCATION & YOUTH DIRECTION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION

Venue : Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Centre

Moderator : Michael Flanigan

Speakers : Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College
Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress
Hon. Bertrand Joseph

6:30 - 7:30pm - GALA RECEPTION

Venue : Sandals Grande

Speaker : Hon. Stephanie Tubbs-Jones, Member of Congress
Hon. Billie Miller, Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Minister of Government ... Antigua

Theme:

7:30 - 10:00 pm : GALA DINNER & AWARDS
 Theme :
 Venue : Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom
 Speakers : Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress
 Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
 Keynote Speaker : Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer
 Presentation of the Marcus Garvey "Bridge Builder" Awards

Hospitality Area

10:30pm - 1:00am

Venue:

Sunday, November 11, 2007

8:30 am - 10:00am - POWER BREAKFAST
 Theme - UNDERSTANDING THE SPIRITUAL ROOTS AND
 MAKING IT WORK
 Celebrant - Ed Goldberg
 Lowell Hawthorne
 Caribbean person - TBD

Selection

Theme:

Selection:

10/16/07

Exhibit 22

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office
Review #: 09-6333; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-2222
Date: May 27, 2009 and May 28, 2009
Location: Washington, DC (via telephone on May 27, 2009) and at Rayburn HOB 354 (on May 28, 2009)
Time: 4:10pm to 5:30 p.m. (approximately) and 3:30pm to 4:00pm (approximately)
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office is currently the chief of staff of Representative Charles Rangel, a Member of the United States House of Representatives representing the Fifteenth District of New York. He was interviewed pursuant to Review 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. We requested an interview with Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and he consented to an interview. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office's counsel was present. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. [attached]
2. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not attend the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference although he received an invitation. In response to a Request for Information by OCE, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office looked for Representative Rangel's invitation to the conference, but could not find it. He had thought Representative Rangel had received one, but because he could not find the invitation he now thinks that Representative Rangel did not receive one.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

3. Representative Rangel could have been invited orally as he has been attending the conference for years and was seen almost as a partner. He attends the conference because he is dedicated to strengthening the relationships between the Caribbean community, the African-American community of New York City and in general, and the United States.
4. The question of whether Representative Rangel would attend the conference in 2008 was a difficult one because of the negative press he had received throughout the preceding summer. Representative Rangel was cautious about attending because he didn't want to be a target for additional negative publicity, but Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and others on the Member's staff argued that he should go to the conference. They argued that if Representative Rangel did not attend he would be rejecting the friends with whom he helped build the conference and that the Member had to stand up and do the right thing despite the possible negative publicity.
5. Ultimately, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and his staff persuaded the Member to attend. Representative Rangel decided to keep a low profile and, unlike in past years, staff would not attend the conference with the Member.
6. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that the CaribNews Foundation invited the Member. The CaribNews Foundation is the charitable arm of the newspaper. When the rules changed in 2007 and corporations could not be involved as before – i.e. direct contributions to the conference – there was “talk” about how to do the conference in light of the new rules.
7. According to Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office, there was “talk” that the Rodneys needed an entity to create a common fund so that the corporate money could be used to pay for the conference and that the CaribNews Foundation could be used for that purpose.
8. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office initially stated that he did not remember how he was aware of this “talk.” He stated that part of it was his reading of the rules and the supplemental material about how things get done. He then stated that “we” celebrated when Representative Susan Tubbs-Jones was made the chair of the Standards Committee in 2007 because she would try to create a way for Members of Congress to continue to attend the conference. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office then stated that he was made aware of the “talk” through the Rodneys and that the Rodneys told Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office that Representative Tubbs-Jones was going to have her counsel, Dawn Kelly-Mobley, find a way to make the conference work. The Members would have a few more hoops to go through but “we” would find a

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

way. Representative Tubbs-Jones would let Ms. Mobley know the conference was a priority and tell her to make it possible. Representative Tubbs-Jones made Ms. Mobley the point of contact on the issue of the conference.

9. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that Representative Rangel also mentioned that Representative Tubbs-Jones told him something similar. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that there was talk about "keeping the conference going." He also stated that "They gave us the framework to keep the conference going." "They" referred to Ms. Mobley and Representative Tubbs-Jones.
10. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember any specific conversations with Ms. Mobley, but he would have had them because he would have wanted to make sure he followed her advice. He stated that the 2007 conversations about Standards Committee finding a way to keep the conference going may have also been with Patricia Louis, the Rodney's office manager.
11. Regarding the structure of the CaribNews Foundation, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office said that the role of the foundation was more formalized as a way to handle the new rules and that it would have come from the Standards Committee staff. The Rodney's were the first people to describe the new structure to Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office following their conversation with Ms. Mobley. The Rodney's told Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office that they could easily comply because they had always done the conference through the foundation. The Rodney's told him that it should have always been called the CaribNews Foundation's conference.
12. Before 2007, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office knew that the corporations had a role in the conference because the format was in part to bring businesses together. Members of Congress would talk policy, but the Members' presence was the glamour part of the conference and a way to attract more people. However, policy was not the central focus of the conference. The central focus of the conference was business and increasing investment in the region. The Members of Congress drew government officials from the various Caribbean governments and these government officials drew the businesses.
13. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was aware the involvement of other corporations like AT&T, Macy's, Citi, etc because they were pretty consistent supports of the conference. It was clear they were supporters of the conference financially.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

14. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not talk to Representative Rangel about these matters because the Member does not require that level of detail and does not typically ask for specifics.
15. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember how he became aware of the 2007 rule changes and did not remember attending any briefings or training about the new rules. He thought he was aware of the limits on the number of days a Member could attend an event paid for by an entity that employs a lobbyist, but he was not certain. Mr. Daley did not think he was aware of rules that made an entity that earmarked money for a trip a sponsor of that trip.
16. In response to the question: At the time of the 2007/2008 conferences, how sponsor was defined? Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that the New York CaribNews Foundation was the sponsor of the conference because they were putting on the conference with money from a general fund that would pay for the conference. At that time he became conscious of a need for a 501(c)(3) to be the sponsor.
17. Over the course of several phone calls—most often with Patricia Louis and Faye Rodney, Karl Rodney's wife — Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office learned that he CaribNews Foundation was going to raise money from their traditional donors and other entities.
18. The government of St. Maarten was the lynchpin of the 2008 conference. They were the conference's host and they had specific requirements, as host, that were financial in nature. For instance, when a host government owns a conference center and/or hotel then they give the rooms and conference space for free. If they do not own space, then they have to arrange with a hotel to give rooms and space to the conference at an affordable amount. Other host government support includes police escorts, airport greeting services, and security services. They also host an opening reception and key components of the conference.
19. Although it was not typical, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office became the scheduler for Representative Rangel's travel to the conference in 2008 because he played a part in convincing him to go. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office made the reservations for the Member, but did not remember how he did it or whether the Representative had an e-ticket or a ticket in some other form. He did not remember receiving any airline itinerary documents, but it would have been common practice for him to receive one.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

20. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was shown the pre-travel clearance form submitted to the Standards Committee and stated that he filled it out and the Member signed it. He was shown the post-travel disclosure forms that were submitted to the Standards Committee and stated that he filled them out and the Representative signed them.
21. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office initially said he got the information to fill out the post-travel forms from the Rodneys and stated that he remembered getting a memo from the Rodneys with the cost of the various aspects of the trip on it and that the memo was where he got the dollar amounts for the post-travel forms. He was then asked to explain why the numbers on the post-travel form matched the pre-travel form and not the memo from the Rodneys. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office then said that he could not say for sure that he got the numbers from the memo. He did not remember if the numbers were from the memo or from the pre-travel forms. He was not sure if he checked the cost of the airfare against the airline tickets or if he got it from the pre-travel documents or from the memo.
22. Generally speaking, however, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office would not look behind the numbers given by the Rodneys. He would assume the Rodneys were accurate. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was not certain how it was done, but thought that the accounting for the conference was simple and the information for each Member would be the same. He did not ask the Rodneys for supporting documentation for the numbers on the memo.
23. After the conference, he spoke to Representative Rangel generally about the event. When the article by Susan Crabtree was published there was a lot of talk about the subject of the article with several people. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember with whom he spoke. He then said that he spoke with the Rodneys and the Member. Overall there was an opinion that there could not be anything substantive to the article because the travel was approved by the Standards Committee. It was true that the corporations were at the conference, but they did not have anything to do with their Washington, DC agenda because that's not who attended the conference. His conversations with Representative Rangel were brief and were limited to reassuring him that the office followed the rules and got approval for the travel.
24. After the OCE review was initiated Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office called other members of the Congressional Black Caucus. Representative Rangel asked him to make the calls and to tell them that he would stand by them and offered his help.

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

25. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office recalled a conversation with Representative Carolyn Kilpatrick's chief of staff, Kim Rudolph. Ms. Rudolph addressed the comments that Representative Kilpatrick made in which she thanked the sponsors of the conference. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office explained Representative Kilpatrick's statements to OCE by saying that that regardless of who the real sponsor of the event was, when Members thank the corporations it helps the Rodneys put on the conference -- even if the sponsors are not sponsors under the rule. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office also remembered speaking to Shelly Thomas, Delegate Donna Christensen's scheduler, but did not recall the specifics of the conversation.
26. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was not aware of any limits on a private foundation paying for overseas travel. He did not know whether the CaribNews Foundation was a private foundation or a public charity.
27. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was shown a copy of Congressman Rangel's itinerary and a receipt for an electronic ticket. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that he did not remember seeing it before, but that the itinerary was the type of document that would typically be placed in the Congressman's briefing book so that he could provide the information at the airport in order to get his ticket. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office also pointed out that the receipt for the electronic ticket was the sort of document that would only be provided after the Congressman checked in for his flight.

I prepared this Memorandum of Interview on May 28, 2009 after interviewing Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office on May 27, 2009. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office on May 27, 2009.

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

Exhibit 23



THE NEW YORK CARIBNEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	Kelly Mobley	FROM:	Patricia Louis
COMPANY:	Committee on Standards of official conduct	DATE:	8/20/08
FAX NUMBER:	202-228-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:	
RE: 2008 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE			

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Following is the completed form and attachments re travel for Members of Congress to attend the 2008 Multinational Business Conference scheduled for November 6-9, 2008 in St. Maatten.

Regards

09-6333 0255

CN-000112



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Organized by Carib News Foundation, A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

09-6333 0256

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): BASED ON COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE WHICH IMPACTS US/CARIBBEAN RELATIONS ON WHICH THE MEMBER SERVES.
6. Dates of travel: NOVEMBER 6-8, 2008
7. Cities of departure - destination - return: VARIES - DEPENDING ON MEMBER
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
 - a. One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered:If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

09-6333 0257

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: _____
 CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (* SEE ATTACHED)
13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: _____
 THE INTEREST OF CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION IS TO PROMOTE, INFORM, TRADE AND
 ESTABLISHMENT OF MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE U.S AND THE QARIBBEAN
14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted: _____
 REGULAR SCHEDULED AIR SERVICE, ECONOMY CLASS
15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):
16. I represent that either (check one of the following):
 a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: or
 b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation:
 If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____
17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: SEE ATTACHED
18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: SONESTA MAHO BEACH RESORT.
19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$110.00
20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: HAS APPROPRIATE MEETING ROOMS

21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	410	260	145
For each accompanying family member	410	0	145

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$150 \$ 25	Conference Registration Local transportation
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

Address: 7 WEST 38th STREET, 8th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

Telephone number: (212) 944-1991

Fax number: (212) 944-2089

Email Address: CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
 U.S. House of Representatives
 HT-2, The Capitol
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)
 (202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INVITED TO THE
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS
CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 6-9, 2008, ST. MAARTEN, N.A.

Congresswoman Diane E. Watson
Congressman David Scott
Congressman James Clyburn
Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez
Congressman Charles Rangel
Congressman Donald Payne
Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
Congressman Edolphus Towns
Congressman G. K. Butterfield
Congressman Gregory Meeks
Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.
Congressman Keith Ellison
Congressman Kendrick Meek
Congresswoman Maxine Waters
Congressman Melvin Watt
Congressman Robert Scott
Congressman William Lacy Clay
Congresswoman Barbara Lee
Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
Congresswoman Corrine Brown
Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
Congressman Danny Davis
Congressman Bennie Thompson
Congresswoman Laura Richardson

July 2008

09-6333 0260



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Item#17

A Caribbean country whose proximity to other Caribbean Countries makes it conveniently located for delegates from the other Caribbean countries to attend.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

09-6333 0261

**MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INVITED TO THE
13th Annual Multinational Business Conference
St. Maarten, November 6-9, 2008**

**Congressman William Lacy Clay
U.S House of Representatives
131 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2406
Fax: 202-226-3717**

**Congresswoman Diane E. Watson
US House of Representatives
125 Cannon HOB
Washington , DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7084
Fax: 202-225-2422**

**Congressman Kendrick Meek
U.S House of Representatives
1039 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-4506
Fax: 202-226-0777**

**Congressman David Scott
U.S House of Representatives
417 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2929
Fax: 202-225-4268**

**Congressman James Clyburn
US House of Representatives
2135 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3315
Fax: 202-225-9253**

**Congressman Robert Scott
U.S House of Representatives
1201 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-8351
Fax: 202-225-8354**

Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez
U.S House of Representatives
2241 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2361
Fax: 202-226-0327

Congressman Charles Rangel
U.S House of Representatives
2354 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515-3215
Phone: 202-225-4365
Fax: 202-225-0186

Congressman Donald Payne
U.S House of Representatives
2209 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3436
Fax: 202-225-4160

Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
U.S House of Representatives
1510 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-1790
Fax: 202-225-5517

Congressman Edolphus Towns
U.S House of Representatives
2232 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-5936
Fax: 202-225-6018

Congressman G. K. Butterfield
U.S House of Representatives
413 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3101
Fax: 202-225-2256

Congressman Gregory Meeks
U.S House of Representatives
1710 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3461
Fax: 202-225-4169

09-6333 0263

Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.
U.S House of Representatives
2419 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-0773
Fax: 202-225-0899

Congressman Keith Ellison
U.S House of Representatives
1130 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-4755
Fax: 202-225-4886

Congressman Kendrick Meek
U.S House of Representatives
1039 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-4506
Fax: 202-225-0777

Congresswoman Maxine Waters
U.S House of Representatives
2324 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2201
Fax: 202-225-7854

Congressman Melvin Watt
U.S House of Representatives
2236 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-1510
Fax: 202-225-1512

Congresswoman Barbara Lee
U.S House of Representatives
2444 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2661
Fax: 202-225-9817

Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
U.S House of Representatives
1610 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2261
Fax: 202-225-5730

09-6333 0264

Congresswoman Corrine Brown
U.S House of Representatives
2444 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-0123
Fax: 202-225-2256

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
U.S House of Representatives
1511 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-8885
Fax: 202-2256-1477

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
U.S House of Representatives
410 Canon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3816
Fax: 202-225-3317

Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
U.S House of Representatives
1029 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-6231
Fax: 202-2256-0112

Congressman Danny Davis
U.S House of Representatives
1222 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-5006
Fax: 202-225-5641

Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs-Jones
U.S House of Representatives
1516 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7032
Fax: 202-2256-1539/2367

Congressman Bennie Thompson
US House of Representatives
2432 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-5876
Fax: 202-225-5898

09-6333 0265

Working Copy

13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
St. Maarten, N.A.

**THEME: A REGION IN TRANSITION -- STRATEGY FOR
CHANGE -- BUILDING ALLIANCES**

Thursday, November 6, 2008

12:00 noon- 6:00pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -

5:00 - 6:30 - TOWN HALL FORUM - HEALTH

Healthy Eating and Living

Innovative Solutions for Life styles

**Diseases- a Collaborative Approach - Diabetes,
Hypertension, Obesity, Oral Health**

Venue - ROYAL ISLANDER

Moderator - Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

Speakers - Mrs. Karen Boykin-Towns

Congressmember Dr. Donna Christian Christensen

**Commissioner Maria Buncamper Molanus, Health
Commissioner, St. Maarten**

Dr. Leon Merrick

Dr. Jay Cohan

Dr. John Palmer

6:30- 7:30pm - OPENING RECEPTION

Venue: - UPPER POOL

09-6333 0266

Theme: - *A REGION IN TRANSITION*
Speakers: - Faye A. Rodney
Hon. Roy Marlin - Commissioner for Tourism & Finance - St
Maarten.

MC: - Sabrina Hosang - Royal Caribbean Bakery
7:30 - 9:30 pm - OPENING DINNER

Venue: - MAHO ROOM

Theme: - *STRATEGY FOR CHANGE*

MC - Judge Sylvia Hinds-Radix

Speakers: - Susan Taylor

Hon. Donald Payne, Member US Congress

10:00pm - 1:00am: - HOSPITALITY AREA

Friday, November 7, 2008

8:00am - 8:45am - (BREAKFAST) - OCEAN TERRACE

9:00am - 6:00pm	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OCEAN TERRACE LOBBY CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT SABA ROOM
-----------------	---

9:00am - 10:15am - **OPENING CEREMONIES**
Venue: - **MAHO ROOM**
Theme: - **BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR PROGRESS**

Invocation: - **Rev. Susan Johnson=Cook**

Anthems: - **St. Maarten**
Lift Every Voice

Remarks: - **Eric Eve**
Karen Boykin-Towns
Marie Long
Ed Goldberg
Patrick Gaston
Hazel Dukes

Speakers: - **Hon. Carolyn Checks Kilpatrick - Member**
US Congress
Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader
of Government, St. Maarten
Harry Belafonte

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONIES

10:15am - 10:30am - COFFEE BREAK -

10:30am - 11:45am - PRESENTATION

EDUCATION -- TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES - COLLABORATION

Moderator - Dr. Emmanuel Gonsalves
Greetings - Marie Long
Speakers - Dr. Edison Jackson
Patrick Gaston
Dr. Marcia Keizs
Congressmember Eddie Bernice Johnson
Professor Rex Nettleford

12.00 noon - 1:15p.m.

PRESENTATION

TRAVEL AND TOURISM -

A Transformative Approach

Moderator - Lloyd Williams
Greetings - Wallace Ford
Speakers - Commissioner Roy Marlin
Howard Dodson
Congressman Gregory Meeks
Professor Rex Nettleford
Dr. Martin Valdes

12:00 noon - 1:15p.m - PRESENTATION
*HEALTH - AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGY FOR THE REGION*

Greetings - Karen Boykin-Towns

Moderator - Yvonne Graham

Speakers - Dr. Denzil Douglas
Dr. Carl Kenel Pierre
Commissioner Maria Buncamper Molanus, Health
Commissioner, St. Maarten
- Dr. Dexter McKenzie

1:30pm - 2:30pm - LUNCHEON

Venue: - Main Ballroom

Theme: - *BUILDING A WINNING STRATEGY - PARTNERSHIPS
THAT WORK*

Moderator: - Hon. Nick Perry, NYS Assembly

Speakers - Eric Eve

Keynote Speaker - Hon. David Paterson, Governor New York State

3:00pm - 4:00pm

Round Table # 1 -

Theme - *EDUCATION - THINKFINITY PRESENTATION &
DEMONSTRATION*

Venue - Royal Islander A
MC - Dr. Patricia Hazlewood
Speakers - Patrick Gaston
Albert Browne

Round Table #2 -

Theme - *LOCAL BUSINESS INITIATIVES*
Opportunities with US Companies

Venue - Royal Islander B
Speakers: - Ed Goldberg
Eric Eve
Albert Browne

4:30pm - 6:00pm

Venue - Royal Islander A
Theme : *EDUCATION -- SHARING WORKING SOLUTIONS*
Greetings : Michael Flanigan
Moderator : Dr. Marcella Maxwell

Speakers: - Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor, NYC
Dr. Edison O. Jackson
Dr. Marcia Keizs
Professor Rex Nettleford, UWI
William Payne, Assemblyman New Jersey

Venue:

6.30:00pm - 7:30pm - **HOST COUNTRY EVENING**

Venue:

Theme

MC:

Speakers:

CULTURAL PRESENTATION

7:30 - 8:00 pm:

8:00pm - 10:30 pm.

Venue :

Theme

10:00pm - 1:00am - **HOSPITALITY AREA**

Venue:

Saturday, November 8, 2008

7:45 am - 8:15 am = **BREAKFAST**

Venue - **OCEAN TERRACE**

8:30am - 10:00am - **PRESENTATION**

Theme **WOMEN OF INFLUENCE AND POWER**

Venue: - **MAHO BEACH**

Greetings & Opening Remarks - - **Brenda Scott**

Moderator - **Marilyn Johnson**

Speakers: - **Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Government Business**
Dame Billie Miller, former Deputy Prime Minister, of Barbados
Dr. Marcia Keizs, President York College
Michelle Paterson, First Lady New York State
Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
Rev. Dr. Susan Johnson-Cook

10.15am - 11:45am - **PRESENTATION**

Theme - **THE CARIBBEAN, IT'S VALUE & POTENTIAL**

Venue - **Royal Islander A**

Greetings - **Wallace Ford**

Moderator - **Dame Billie Miller**

Speakers - **Hon. P. J. Patterson, former Prime Minister, Jamaica**
Hon. Dr. Ralph Gonsálves, Prime Minister St. Vincent and the Grenadines
Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister, St. Kitts-Nevis
Congressman Charles Rangel

12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m. **PRIVATE MEETING -- CLOSED DOOR SESSION**
with Members of Congress and Ministers of Government

12:00 noon - 1:15p.m.

PRESENTATION

Theme

- *TRADE & INVESTMENT - CREATIVE SOLUTIONS*
- *RETOOLING FOR GROWTH - PARTNERSHIP AT WORK*

Venue

- Royal Islander A

Greetings

- Michael Flanigan

Moderator

- Ivanhoe Ffriend

Speakers

- Adolfo Carrion, Borough President, Bronx, New York
- Compton Bourne, President Caribbean Development Bank
- Congressman Edolphus Towns
- Eric Eve

12:00 noon - 1:15pm

- **PRESENTATION**

Theme

- *Hemispheric Security - Ports/Airports -*
- *Crime - Drugs - Disaster*

Venue

- Royal Islander B

Greetings

- Earl Brown, Deputy Borough President, Bronx
- Judge Sylvia Ash

Moderator

- Tony Best

Speakers

- Congressman Bennie Thompson
- Commissioner Theo Heyliger, St. Maarten
- Professor Ivelaw Griffith
- Hon. Lance Oglste, Brooklyn District Attorney

1:30pm - 2:30 pm

LUNCHEON

Venue

- MAHO ROOM

Theme: **CARIBBEAN -- A SOLID INVESTMENT**

Greetings - **Hon. Darryl Towns**

Speakers - **Hon. William Thompson, NYC Comptroller**
Dr. Compton Bourne, President CDB

Round Table #1 - **IMMIGRATION/DEPORTEES**

Venue - **Royal Islander A**

Moderator - **Dr. Marco Mason**

Speakers **Congressman Bennie Thompson**
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson, Member US Congress
Attorney Stanford Rubenstein
NYC Councilmember Dr. Kendall Stewart

Round Table#2: - **HAITI -- BOLD INITIATIVES -- THE DIASPORA--**
CBC AND CARICOM

Venue - **Royal Islander B**

Moderator - **Hon. Yvonne Graham**

Speakers - **Hon. Charles Rangel**
Hon. Gregory Meeks
Hon. Ralph Gonsalves
Dr. Lesly Kernisant

4:30 pm -- 6:00pm - **TOWNHALL FORUM - TECHNOLOGY**

Venue: **Royal Islander A**

Greetings & Opening - Marie Long

Moderator - Colin Ward

**Speakers - Congressman Edolphus Towns
Albert Brown
Commissioner of Technology**

6:30 - 7:30pm - GALA RECEPTION

Speakers - Susan Taylor

7:30pm - 10:00pm - GALA DINNER & AWARDS PRESENTATION

Speaker - Dr. Harry Belafonte

**Hon. Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Government
Business**

AWARDS PRESENTATION

ENTERTAINMENT

10:30pm - 1:00am - HOSPITALITY AREA

Venue: HOTEL CONFERENCE ROOM

Sunday, November 9, 2008

8:30 am - 10:00am - POWER BREAKFAST

Theme: - *SPIRITUALITY - THE BASICS IN BUSINESS*
Greetings - *Lowell Hawthorne*
Speakers - *Ed Goldberg*
Selection: - *Local Choir*

October 13, 2008

Exhibit 24

2011 JEFF DAVIS 204

ARLINGTON, VA

22202

800-433-7300

Room 1002

SALES PERSON: GC

ITINERARY

NTLQHG

DATE: 27 OCT 08

PAGE: 01

TO: CARIB NEWS ATTN PAT 212-944-2089-FAX
ATTN GEORGE DALLEY /CONGRESSMAN RANGEL/ 202-225-08

FOR: RANGEL/CHARLES

07 NOV 08 - FRIDAY
 AIR AMERICAN AIRLINES FLT:667 ECONOMY FOOD FOR PURCHASE
 LV NEW YORK JFK 745A EQP: BOEING 757
 DEPART: TERMINAL B 04HR 05MIN
 AR ST MAARTEN 1250P NON-STOP
 RANGEL/CHARLES SEAT-17D AA-HAD6146

09 NOV 08 - SUNDAY
 AIR AMERICAN AIRLINES FLT:660 ECONOMY FOOD FOR PURCHASE
 LV ST MAARTEN 200P EQP: BOEING 757
 540P 04HR 40MIN
 AR NEW YORK JFK NON-STOP
 ARRIVE: TERMINAL B
 RANGEL/CHARLES SEAT-18F AA-HAD6146

*****ATTN AAD *****
 AIRFARE 752.15 ROUNDTRIP COACH. THE 5 PERCENT DISCOUNT
 FROM THE GROUP MEETING CONTRACT HAS BEEN APPLIED
 THIS IS A NON-REFUNDABLE FARE.
 I GUARANTEE THE PRICE THE TICKET MUST BE ISSUED BY
 OCTOBER 27TH. IF THE TICKET IS PURCHASED ON A LATER DATE
 THE RESERVATION WILL BE RE-PRICED ON THE DAY THE TICKET IS
 ISSUED.
 AFTER THE TICKET IS ISSUED ** CHANGES** 150.00 FEE
 /EACH CHANGE/ AND A POSSIBLE FARE DIFFERENCE.
 THANKS,
 DONNA
 ELECTRONIC TICKET

PASSENGER TICKET AND BAGGAGE CHECK

219015847
PASSENGER RECEIPT 1 OF 1
 27OCT08 091812Z
 US

American Airlines

NOT VALID FOR TRANSPORTATION THROUGHOUT YOUR JOURNEY

NONREF/CHG FEE APPLIES/NO VALUE AFTER FLT TIME

RANGEL/CHARLES

NEW YORK JFK
 ST MAARTEN
 NEW YORK JFK

00112184722104 001 219015847 6

658.00
 30.80
 2.50
 60.85
 752.15

Exhibit 25



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the
General Counsel

Office of the
Secretary
Washington, D.C.
20201

June 2, 2000

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Ethics Counselors
National Institutes of Health

FROM: Karen Santoro
Ethics Counsel

SUBJECT: Outside Activities of NIH Employees with Foundations

Recently, a provision of the Internal Revenue Code has been brought to my attention that has serious ramifications for NIH employees who have previously received approval to engage in outside employment activities with private foundations. The statute imposes a tax on "each act of self-dealing between a disqualified person and a private foundation." 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(1). This statute, which was enacted in 1969, was intended to curb private foundations' attempts to influence Government officials. The Internal Revenue Service has issued a number of revenue rulings with respect to Government employees and prospective activities with private foundations.

Issue: The Internal Revenue Service imposes an individual penalty tax of up to 200% of the amount of compensation from a private foundation to certain Government officials conducting outside activities with these foundations.

Conclusion: Certain Government officials should refrain from accepting compensation (other than travel expenses within the United States) for outside activities with private foundations.

Discussion: Specifically, the statute imposes a tax on each act of self-dealing by a disqualified individual equal to five percent of the amount involved for each year in the taxable period. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(1) [1]. In any case in which an initial tax is imposed on an act of self-dealing which is not corrected within the taxable period, a tax equal to 200 percent of the amount involved will be imposed on the disqualified person. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(b)(1)[2].

The Code defines "self-dealing" as any direct or indirect agreement by a private foundation to make any payment to certain enumerated government officials. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(1)(F)[3]. Government officials who are "disqualified persons" within the scope of this restriction are elective officials, Presidential appointees, Schedule C employees, and individuals compensated at or above GS-15-7 levels, irrespective of their appointment mechanism (Title 42, SBRS, Commissioned Corps), and personal or executive assistants or secretaries to any of the foregoing. 26 U.S.C. § 4946(c). Excluded from the definition of government employees is a "special governmental employee" as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 202(a)[4]; Treas. Reg. 53.4946-1(g)(1).

Also excluded from the definition of self-dealing are agreements to employ an individual for any period after the termination of his government service if that individual is terminating his government service within a 90 day period. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(1)(F). For purposes of the statute, a "private foundation" has the same meaning as in 26 U.S.C. § 509. A website for obtaining the status of a foundation can be found at http://www.irs.ustreas.gov/bus_info/eo/eosearch.html.

09-6333 0281

Government officials who are within the scope of this statute will be required to pay the tax only if the individual participates in the act of self-dealing knowing that it is an act of self-dealing. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (a)(1). The regulations define "knowing" to include those situations when: the individual has actual knowledge of the facts that such a transaction would be self-dealing; he is aware that the act violates Federal tax law governing self-dealing; and he negligently fails to make reasonable attempts to ascertain whether the act is an act of self-dealing or he is in fact aware that it is in an act of self-dealing. Treas. Reg. § 53.4941 (a)(1)-(b)(3). The burden is thus on the individual to determine whether he or she is liable under the statute.

An individual's participation in an act of self-dealing will not be considered "knowing" if the individual, after full disclosure of the factual situation to legal counsel, relies on the advice of counsel expressed in a "reasoned written legal opinion" that an act is not an act of self-dealing within the meaning of the statute, even if the act is subsequently determined to be self-dealing. Treas. Reg. § 53.4941 (a)(1)-(b)(6).

Finally, a tax for self-dealing will not be imposed under the following circumstances: certain nontaxable prizes and awards if the recipients are selected from the general public; nontaxable scholarships and fellowship grants; qualifying annuity plans; contributions or gifts not exceeding an aggregate of \$25; payments made under the government employee training program in 5 U.S.C. Ch. 41; and payment of travel expenses within the United States. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (d)(2)(B); Rev. Rul. 131, 1974-2 C.B. 385.

As a result of this statute, NIH employees paid at or above the GS 15-7 level are effectively prohibited from receiving compensation from a private foundation for activities such as teaching, writing, advising, or consulting. The Internal Revenue Service may serve a deficiency notice upon an employee, who would then be forced to pay the tax or contest the assessment.

Effective immediately, all requests for approval of outside activities must be reviewed in accordance with the statutory provision at 26 U.S.C. § 4941. The compensation level of the individual requesting approval must be considered in conjunction with an analysis of the nature of the private entity offering the opportunity for compensation. Previously approved outside activities with foundations for NIH employees who are paid at or above the GS 15-7 level should be reviewed to determine the status of the foundation. Should the status of the foundation be private, any affected employee must be advised to either accept only travel expenses within the United States for his/her service or resign from such service. Employees who have questions whether payment to them by a private foundation constitutes acts of self-dealing should consult private counsel.

For your information, the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) and the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) are For your information, the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) and the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) are not considered private foundations for purposes of this prohibition.

The NIH Office of the Legal Advisor has reviewed and concurs in this opinion.

cc: Robert Lanman, Stephen Benowitz

[1] When a tax is imposed on a self-dealer, a corresponding tax of 2.5 percent is imposed on any foundation manager unless the participation by the foundation manager is not willful and is due to reasonable care. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(2). A maximum tax of \$10,000 may be imposed. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (c) (2).

[2] The "taxable period" is defined as the period beginning with the date on which the act of self-dealing occurs, and ending on the earliest of: the date that a deficiency notice is mailed by the I.R.S.; the date on which the tax is assessed; or the date on which the correction of the act of self-dealing is completed. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (e), Treas. Reg. § 53.4941 (e) -1 (a) (1). As with the initial tax, a corresponding additional tax of 50 percent will be imposed on any foundation manager who refuses to agree to the correction. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (b) (2). As with the initial tax, the penalty on a foundation manager is limited to \$10,000. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (c) (2)

[3] The statute also defines "self-dealing" to include: the sale or exchange, or leasing, of property; the lending of money or other extension of credit; the furnishing of goods, services, or facilities; payments to a disqualified person as defined in 26 U.S.C. § 4946 (a) (such as substantial contributors; foundation managers, holders of 20 percent of the voting power or beneficial interests; family members of disqualified individuals, or a corporation, partnership, or trust holding a 35 percent interest); and transfer to or use by a disqualified person of the foundation's income or assets. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (d).

[4] 18 U.S.C. § 202 (a) defines "special Government employee" as temporary employee appointed for a term not to exceed 130 days, a part-time U.S. commissioner or magistrate, a part-time member of Congress, or a Reserve or National Guard officer.

09-6333 0282

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EXHIBIT 26

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Delegate Donna Christensen
Review #: 09-3698; 09-2222; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-6333
Date: May 4, 2009
Location: 1510 Longworth HOB, Washington, DC
Participants: Leo Wise
Beth Horton

Summary: Delegate Christensen attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference. We requested an interview with Ms. Christensen and she consented. Delegate Christensen was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and she signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. Ms. Christensen made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. She attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008.
2. The conference was held in St. Maarten.
3. She arrived in St. Maarten on the Thursday after the election and remained in St. Maarten through the following Saturday.
4. She has had a long relationship with the Carib News Foundation and she introduced the topic of healthcare at the 2008 conference. She is always invited to participate at the conference.
5. Carib News sponsored the conference.
6. She attended a town meeting when she arrived at the conference.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

7. The Rodneys owned the Carib News paper.
8. She assumed the Foundation arm is not unlike other companies not-for-profit arms.
9. She was invited to the conference via letter, but is not aware who signed the letter. Carl and Faye Rodney would have been responsible for inviting her.
10. The government of St. Maarten participates with the Foundation in holding the conference and the government hosts a reception and welcomes participants at the opening. The head of the government speaks at discussions with other heads of government and arranges some type of cultural performance, such as a children's choir.
11. As far as she knew, Carib News sponsored the conference.
12. She understood that the sponsor would be responsible for setting up the hotel, organizing the agenda for the conference, and inviting individuals to participate.
13. The Foundation paid the expenses for the conference.
14. When asked if the Foundation paid all of the expenses, Ms. Christensen asked if the answer was in the record; she was told by Mr. Wise that the board has the post disclosure report. She stated that the Foundation paid for travel and hotel expenses and general activities at the conference that conference participants attended.
15. She saw her airline ticket.
16. She did not recall seeing a hotel bill but she remembered checking into the hotel and stated that she probably received a bill when she checked out because she was responsible for any incidental expenses.
17. She did not know if the government of St. Maarten paid for her hotel room.
18. She paid for one breakfast herself and recalled that the hotel was an all-inclusive hotel and that all other meals were part of the conference. She further stated that the government of St. Maarten paid for a reception, which included food, and that she attended the reception.
19. She attended a dinner on Thursday night which she assumed the cost of was paid by the Foundation.
20. Shelly Thomas handled all of her travel arrangements.

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21. The Foundation booked her travel with Shelly's help. The Foundation would have arranged the airline ticket because the organization had its own travel agent.
22. She stayed at the hotel Thursday and Friday night and that she stayed in a standard room. She recalls that there was a desk in the room and a balcony but she doesn't recall there being more than one room.
23. Her husband did not attend the conference.
24. All travel is arranged with Shelly Thomas. She tells Shelly when she can travel.
25. The Foundation handled travel approval directly through the ethics committee and she and Shelly handled post travel reports.
26. Shelly filled out the post-travel form and that she signed the form. It is her signature on the form.
27. She guessed that Shelly knew the hotel cost but that she did not know where the information for the reported dollar amounts came from. She stated that when she registers at conferences, most places provide the cost of the room.
28. She stated that the office attended the CBC training.
29. The handwriting on the post-travel report looked like her handwriting but she was not sure, she believed that Shelly filled out the form.
30. She believed that she received a letter that included the post-travel information, including the dates of travel. She believed that the Standards Committee would have approved the trip prior to her receiving the invitation.
31. She may have seen the private sponsor certification form, she believed that she would have seen it because she could not have attended without clearance from the Standards Committee.
32. She did not believe that she had any direct contact with the Standards Committee as Shelly was the only person who dealt with the conference.
33. When asked if there were any issues with the 2007 conference in Antigua, Ms. Christensen didn't believe there had been but she was not certain.
34. She stated that she asked other Members if they would be attending the conference.

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35. She does not recall receiving approval from the Standards Committee for the 2007 conference.
36. She has not met with Standards regarding any travel matter.
37. She had asked other Members at a CBC meeting if they would be attending the conference and she reminded those that would be attending to get their paperwork to the Standards Committee on time for trip approval.
38. She did not speak with any Members of the Standards Committee regarding the conference except for Representative Stephanie Tubbs Jones. She only spoke with Representative Tubbs Jones because she herself was attending the conference.
39. She stated that Representative Tubbs Jones counsel, Dawn Kelly Mobley, may have attended a meeting where she was present and that she may have brought information to explain what the Members could and couldn't do under the new rules.
40. She did not recall any one-on-one conversations about the '08 or '07 conference.
41. She arrived at the conference on Thursday and recalls seeing the banner that listed the conference sponsors. It appeared in all rooms.
42. When asked what the role of the corporate sponsors was at the conference, Ms. Christensen stated that they contributed to the Foundation.
43. She stated that she did not know what made the Foundation the sponsor, she was not aware of that type of detail. Most of the companies have some type of sponsorship at the conference. She did not know if they gave directly to the Foundation or to the Conference. The sponsors generally greet participants and participate in the introduction and at the reception.
44. The definition of sponsor had been explained to her, not in reference to the '08 conference but in general it was explained to her. She recalled discussing what she generally could and couldn't attend.
45. She attended the dinner on Thursday but does not recall if Representative Payne thanked the sponsors.
46. Representative Payne generally talks about issues that he is involved in when speaking at the conference.

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47. She spoke at the conference and at the Town Hall meeting. She also participated in another panel but the Town Hall was her main involvement. And she attended the opening session.
48. She recalled Representative Kilpatrick speaking at the conference but she did not recall any specific remarks.
49. She was aware that the Foundation was the sponsor of the conference. It did not occur to her that the information on the pre-travel certification was incomplete.
50. She was not aware of how the expenses for the trip were paid, once the Standards Committee approved the trip then she knew she could go and didn't think any more of the trip sponsor.
51. She did not attend the closed door meeting.
52. She generally spoke about deportation and how it affects countries. Trade is also a large issue, and Haiti.
53. She did not receive any reports on any sessions at the conference, not in any formal way. She may have received something in '07 but she could not recall for sure.
54. She participated at the ribbon cutting at the '08 conference. Heads of government and the Rodneys also attended.
55. She recognized the photo that was taken at the ribbon cutting, she recognized her skirt in the picture. She knew the Macy's representative and Representative Kilpatrick, who were also in the photo, and thinks one of the individuals may have been the AT&T representative.
56. She did not meet with any of the co-sponsors, there was no specific meeting. The conference meetings have never been about company specific issues.
57. She attended other sessions at the conference, Representative Kilpatrick also attended one of the sessions that she attended.
58. She attended the opening ceremony, the health and economic sessions, the reception, the ribbon cutting, and the women's breakfast meeting. She can't recall if she attended the education session and she did not go to the hospitality area.
59. The Rodneys attended a luncheon/dinner on the Hill after the conference.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

60. She did not talk about the conference itself with the Rodneys, other than that she knew of the investigation.
61. At a Caribbean Caucus meeting she spoke with Representative Payne and Kilpatrick about the fact that they were all going through the investigation.
62. She talked with Representative Payne briefly, just in passing, noting that they did not like the new ethics rules.
63. Representative Kilpatrick shared a letter with her that she had been sent since they were both being investigated.
64. She did not have any in-depth conversations with any Members, the Members merely spoke about the fact that they were not happy about the investigation.
65. There were no discussions at any CBC meetings because they felt that they were not supposed to talk about the investigation.
66. She does not attend any events without receiving approval from the Standards Committee. After receiving approval, she does not ask any questions about who is paying the expenses. She assumes all questions have been asked and answered by the Standards Committee. So, nothing she saw at the conference would have raised any flags.
67. She believed that the Foundation is involved in various activities in NY but does not know of any specific activities.

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel



Leslie B. Kiernan
Partner
(202) 778-1848
lkiernan@zuckerman.com

October 22, 2009

BY HAND DELIVERY

R. Blake Chisam
Chief Counsel/Staff Director
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
HT-2, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

RECEIVED
2009 OCT 22 PM 1:45
COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS

Re: Response of Representative Charles B. Rangel to the May 29, 2009
Report of the Office of Congressional Ethics Regarding
the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference

Dear Blake:

I am writing on Representative Rangel's behalf in response to the May 29, 2009 Report of the Office of Congressional Ethics ("OCE") in Review No. 09-6333 ("OCE Report"). Attached to this letter, please find Representative Rangel's Statement in Response to the Report. In addition, and for the reasons set forth below, we believe that the OCE acted outside its authority in connection with this review and did not comply with H. Res. 895, the resolution governing its conduct, or with its own rules. The result is an ultra vires report that is wrong on substance and biased in approach. Accordingly, we request that the Standards Committee determine that the OCE's recommendation, report and findings are without legal effect and not lawfully subject to public disclosure.

Factual Background

At the outset, we note that the OCE Report presents a distorted picture of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference ("2008 Conference"), based on information that has never been made available to Representative Rangel and disregarding the reliable information that we have furnished on the Representative's behalf. A fair review of the actual facts related to his participation in the 2008 Conference establishes that he complied with the ethics rules in connection with the conference, whose purpose was to advance trade and commercial relations between the United States and our allies in the Caribbean. Representative Rangel's participation in the 2008 Conference was approved by the Standards Committee and his pre- and post-travel certification forms were properly filed. The forms were prepared by Representative Rangel's then-Chief of Staff George Dalley, and



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Mr. Dalley reasonably relied upon the information provided by the Carib News Foundation to complete the forms.

OCE Violations of H. Res. 895 and Its Own Rules

The OCE failed to comply with the substantive and procedural legal requirements governing its review in at least the following respects:

1. ***Failure to Commence Preliminary Review Within Required Time Frame:*** H. Res. 895 mandates that a preliminary review commence within seven calendar days (excluding Saturday, Sunday and legal holidays) after receipt of a joint written request from two members (one nominated by the Speaker and one nominated by the Minority Leader) of the OCE Board. H. Res. 895, § 1(c)(1)(A). Here, the OCE Report (¶ 9) acknowledges that two members of the OCE Board requested a review on February 23, 2009, but the preliminary review did not begin until March 6, 2009, which was outside the seven-day period mandated by the resolution. Since the OCE did not commence the review within the required time period, its review is void *ab initio*.¹

2. ***Failure to Complete Preliminary Review Within Required Time Frame:*** H. Res. 895 requires that the Board complete the preliminary review and vote on whether to commence a second-phase review within 30 calendar days after receipt of the joint written request referenced above. H. Res. 895, § 1(c)(1)(B)-(C). Here, the OCE Report (¶ 10) acknowledges that the Board did not vote to initiate a second-phase review until March 27, 2009, which is outside the 30-day limit. Since this vote did not occur within the required time period, the matter was terminated **as a matter of law**. H. Res. 895, § 1(c)(1)(C). Accordingly, all actions of the OCE after expiration of the 30-day period -- its recommendations, report and findings -- were taken without authority and are without legal effect.

3. ***Failure to Complete Second-Phase Review Within Required Time Frame:*** The OCE had 45 days for its second-phase review, and could only extend that period once by fourteen days. H. Res. 895, § 1(c)(2). That review period, once extended, ended on May 25, 2009, not May 26. Even after May 26, the OCE continued to gather evidence in violation of the resolution, which mandates completion of the review within the time period allotted. The interviews of "Staff Member 1" of his Representative Rangel's office and Representative Rangel were conducted on May 27 and May 28, respectively, which was after the second-phase review expired, and accordingly, OCE had no authority to conduct those interviews or include information gathered from those interviews in its recommendation, report or findings. Because we have not had access to the entire

¹ The report also does not affirmatively state that one of the two members who requested the review was nominated by the Speaker and the other by the Minority Leader. It is accordingly unclear whether or not OCE met that requirement in connection with the preliminary review.



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record in this matter, we do not know what additional activities may have also occurred outside the legally mandated period of review.

4. ***Unlawful Conclusion Regarding Validity of Allegations and Improper Delegation of Authority to Staff:*** Under H. Res. 895, any findings shall not include “any conclusions regarding the validity of the allegations” or “the guilt or innocence of the individual who is the subject of the review.” H. Res. § 1(c)(2)(C)(i)(II). In direct violation of this provision, the OCE Report includes a “Note on Culpability,” in which the OCE volunteers its opinion on various aspects of Representative Rangel’s conduct and purports to make a credibility determination regarding statements provided during the interview of Representative Rangel. (OCE Report ¶¶ 6-7)

Furthermore, pursuant to the resolution it is the **Board** that has the authority to make findings, not the staff. No Board member was present at the interview of Representative Rangel and accordingly no Board member was in a position to evaluate his credibility. Even if this credibility determination were considered a finding of fact rather than a thinly veiled comment on guilt, there is no authority in the resolution for such a determination to be delegated to staff. Indeed, it is black letter law that credibility determinations require in-person observation by the actual trier of fact. *See, e.g., Marshall v. Lonberger*, 459 U.S. 422, 435 (1983) (“Face to face with living witnesses the original trier of the facts holds a position of advantage from which [others] are excluded.”) (internal quotation marks and citation omitted).

The problem is particularly acute because the interview was not transcribed, leaving no record for the Board to consider. Indeed, the substance of the interview cannot be ascertained with any confidence.²

5. ***Review of Alleged Violation That Predates Adoption of Resolution:*** H. Res. 895 provides that “[n]o review shall be undertaken by the board . . . of any alleged violation that occurred before the date of adoption of this resolution,” which was March 11, 2008. H. Res. 895, § 1(e). Despite this clear mandate, 37 of the paragraphs of the OCE Report -- about one-third of the total -- are devoted to a discussion of the approval process for the “12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference,” which took place in November of 2007. By the very terms of the resolution, the OCE does not have jurisdiction to review this conduct and should not have relied upon it in connection with its recommendation, report and findings.

6. ***Reliance on Highly Prejudicial And Legally Irrelevant Evidence:*** Quite apart from this jurisdictional deficiency, the OCE’s inclusion of the 2007 material is both highly prejudicial and legally irrelevant. The OCE Report casts unfounded aspersions on the conduct of the 2007

² In fact, on the issue as to which the OCE staff purports to make a credibility determination, in our view the interview memorandum is not a complete and accurate reflection of the questions and answers.

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Conference organizers and the former counsel to the then-Chair of the Standards Committee.³ In the process, the OCE smears the Members who attended the trip -- despite the absence of any evidence linking Representative Rangel or the other Members to the Standards Committee counsel's communications with the Carib News Foundation staff.

Furthermore, the OCE acknowledges that it did not obtain information from the Standards Committee or interview any Committee witnesses regarding the approval process for the 2008 Conference (§ 52). As a result, the OCE cannot offer **any evidence** to support its speculation (§ 88) that the events surrounding the approval in 2007 bear any relationship to the process one year later. The record assembled by the OCE cannot even identify the participants in the approval process, let alone what informed or influenced their decision.⁴

7. **Failure to Satisfy Evidentiary Standard of Proof:** The OCE's own rules permit referrals to the Standards Committee only if OCE determines there is "substantial reason to believe" the allegations against the Member. (OCE Rule 9). The rule provides that a "*substantial reason* exists where there is such relevant evidence a reasonable mind might accept as adequate to support a conclusion." (Id.) (emphasis in original)). Here, the allegation is that Representative Rangel violated Rule 25, clause 5, the House gift rule. Under the House rules, however, a Member violates the rule only when he "*knowingly* accept[s]" a gift that is not permitted by the Rule. (Rule 25, clause 5(a)(1)(A)(i) (emphasis supplied)). The rule specifically permits a Member to accept reimbursement (or payment in kind) for transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel in connection with his duties as an officeholder, so long as it come from a private source other than a registered lobbyist or foreign agent or an entity that retains such persons. Thus, there can be a violation only if there is evidence adequate to support the conclusion that Representative Rangel *knowingly* accepted such a gift. There is no evidence in the record that meets this standard.

The essence of the OCE Report is that certain corporate entities improperly co-sponsored the 2008 Conference and that the Members should have known it. According to the OCE, the Members should have suspected such co-sponsorship -- **despite the Standards Committee's prior approval of the trip** -- because of (i) signage at the 2008 Conference and (ii) the presence of corporate representatives. OCE attaches to its report a photograph -- that the staff chose not to show Representative Rangel -- of a banner bearing corporate logos as purported evidence of this so-called co-sponsorship. The banner, however, does not contain the word "sponsor" or "co-sponsor" or "sponsorship." Representative Rangel does not recall seeing such a banner, but even if it hung

³ Viewed impartially, the conduct that the OCE mischaracterizes appears to reflect both an effort to apply the new rules, and a lack of understanding of the rules on the part of the outside foundation personnel.

⁴ The OCE Report acknowledges that the staff attorney involved in 2008 was not the same as the staff attorney involved in 2007. (§ 54)



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somewhere in the hotel facility, corporate logos on a banner hardly meets the standard of co-sponsorship within the meaning of the ethics rules. Nor is there any reason that a Member should have drawn such a conclusion from the presence of corporate representatives at a business and trade conference. The OCE Report fails to articulate why either of these facts should give rise to any inference whatsoever regarding who paid for the Conference or more specifically who paid for the travel expenses of the Members who attended.⁵ This is not *substantial reason* to believe any knowing violation occurred.

Moreover, the OCE pointedly ignores the direct evidence of the Members' contemporaneous knowledge that the trip had been approved by the Standards Committee. The entire purpose of Standards Committee review is to vet these issues before the trips occur, enabling the Members to avoid second-guessing of precisely the sort engaged in by the OCE. The Carib News Foundation private sponsor form indicates that the Foundation is the sponsor of the trip, that the Foundation certified that the trip was not being financed by a lobbyist or foreign agent and that the trip sponsor had not accepted earmarked funds. (OCE Report Ex. 1). Representative Rangel and his staff were clearly entitled to rely upon these representations and the Committee's approval of the travel.

8. *Reliance on Clear Factual Errors*

The OCE Report contains numerous factual errors that, although not significant individually, raise questions about the quality of the review. The OCE Report gets basic facts wrong. For example, it incorrectly states that Representative Rangel attended the Conference from November 6-9, 2008 (OCE Report ¶¶ 1, 43) and that he "spent four days at the conference at the expense of a third party (¶ 43). In fact, he arrived in the afternoon of November 7, participated in two panels on Saturday, November 8 and departed in the early afternoon on November 9.⁶ (OCE Report Ex. 1). In paragraph 22, the OCE Report refers to Congressman Payne rather than Congressman Rangel. The OCE Report mischaracterizes its staff's own interview memorandum in the Report's "finding" that Representative Rangel was unaware of the accuracy of the information he certified. (¶ 7c). In fact, in

⁵ The OCE's attempted reliance upon this banner as purported evidence of supposed co-sponsorship against Representative Rangel (and claim that he is not credible for not remembering such signs – OCE Report ¶ 25) is further undermined by the fact that the OCE staff did not even have the courtesy to show him the photographs of the banners during his interview. Similarly, Representative Rangel was not present for the transcribed sessions in which individuals from corporations referred to their participation in the conference. (OCE Report Ex. 3). There is no evidence in the record that any of the information reflected on these transcripts was communicated to Representative Rangel, and accordingly, it was improper for the OCE Report to include such transcripts as "evidence" against him. There is similarly no evidence in the record that Representative Rangel had any knowledge of the information regarding purported earmarked corporate donations to the Foundation reflected in paragraphs 30-40 of the OCE Report.

⁶ Indeed, in light of this participation in a full day of the Conference and the length of the required travel to attend the Conference, the Congressman's travel would have been permitted by the two-day exception in the travel rules even if it had been sponsored by corporations that engaged lobbyists. See House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C).

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his interview Representative Rangel made clear that he relied upon his then-Chief of Staff to ensure that the forms were accurate, that “Mr. Dalley did not make up the numbers” and he “assumed Mr. Dalley was fulfilling his obligation to the Standards Committee” and to him. (09-6333 0021).

9. ***Failure to Disclose Exculpatory Evidence:*** The OCE Rules provide: Staff shall promptly provide to a subject any exculpatory information received. (OCE Rule 4F). No such information was provided to Representative Rangel in connection with this review despite the fact that the OCE Report and its appendices include such information. For example, the OCE did not make available the summary of its interview of the American Airlines official, which indicates that American Airlines’ financial support for the 2008 Conference complied with the rules. Not having been shown the full record, we can only speculate that it contains other such helpful information.

For all of the reasons set forth above, we request that the Standards Committee dismiss this matter in its entirety and determine that the OCE’s recommendation, report and findings are without legal effect and not lawfully subject to public disclosure. To the extent that the Committee determines that any portion of the Report is subject to disclosure, those portions that violate the resolution must stricken prior to publication.

Sincerely,



Leslie B. Kiernan
Jason M. Knott
Counsel to Representative Charles B. Rangel

IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

RESPONSE OF CONGRESSMAN CHARLES B. RANGEL
TO THE MAY 29, 2009 REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL
ETHICS REGARDING THE 13TH ANNUAL CARIBBEAN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS
CONFERENCE (Review No. 09-6333)

October 22, 2009

1. I have reviewed the May 29, 2009 Report (the "Report") of the Office of Congressional Ethics ("OCE") regarding my participation in the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten, N.A. on November 7-9, 2008 ("the 2008 Conference"). I believe that the Report presents a distorted picture of the Conference, and uses information either entirely unrelated to or unknown to me to support its point of view. Indeed, I believe a fair review of the actual facts related to my participation in the 2008 Conference establishes that I complied with the ethics rules.

2. I participated in this Conference in connection with my official duties. The purpose of the Conference was to advance trade and commercial relations between the United States and our allies in the Caribbean. I have devoted a considerable amount of my time in the Congress focusing on policy matters affecting this region and am one of the original sponsors of the Caribbean Basin Initiative trade programs. This event was attended by current and former high level officials from countries in the region as well as elected federal and state officials from the United States. I gave two speeches at the Conference, one regarding U.S. -- Caribbean relations and the other focused on issues related to Haiti.

3. I have known Karl and Faye Rodney, the founders of Carib News, an English language newspaper that serves the Caribbean community in my congressional district and elsewhere in the New York region and the United States, for approximately 20 years. To my knowledge, Karl and Faye Rodney are well-respected members of the U.S.-Caribbean community. I believed that the Carib News Foundation was lawfully paying for my travel expenses in connection with this Conference.

4. I received the prior approval of the Standards Committee to participate in the Conference and relied upon that approval in connection with my participation in the Conference and the handling of my travel expenses. I did not knowingly accept anything of value in connection with this trip that was not permitted by the House rules.

5. I relied upon my former Chief of Staff George Dalley to ensure that the appropriate pre- and post-travel forms were accurately completed and timely filed. I believe it was appropriate to delegate these responsibilities to Mr. Dalley. Mr. Dalley is a Columbia Law School graduate who worked in my congressional office in various capacities for approximately thirty years. I believed the forms were accurate when I signed them. I assumed that Mr. Dalley

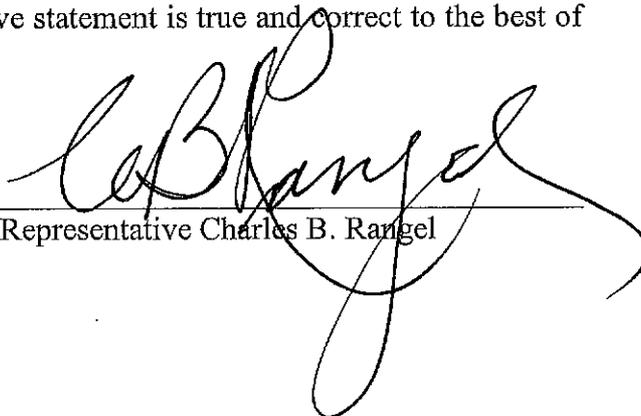
had gotten the information regarding the trip expenses from the Conference organizers and that the information they provided to him was accurate.

6. I have asked my counsel to submit a legal response to the OCE Report.

7. For the reasons set forth above and in the response submitted by my counsel, I request that the Standards Committee dismiss this matter in its entirety and determine that the OCE's recommendation, report and findings are without legal effect.

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare that the above statement is true and correct to the best of my belief.

Dated: October _____, 2009



Representative Charles B. Rangel

111th CONGRESS, 1st SESSION
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

**Investigation into Officially Connected Travel of House Members to Attend the Carib
News Foundation Multinational Business Conferences in 2007 and 2008.**

Appendix E

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT

Review No. 09-2222

The Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics, by a vote of no less than four members, on May 29, 2009 adopted the following report and ordered it to be transmitted to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct of the U.S. House of Representatives.

SUBJECT: Representative Bennie Thompson

NATURE OF THE ALLEGED VIOLATION: There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Bennie Thompson's participation in the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten, N.A. from November 6-9, 2008, his acceptance of reimbursement of expenses to attend that conference and the Member Post Travel Disclosure Form he filed violated various provisions of House Rule XXV Section 5(b).

RECOMMENDATION: The Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics recommends that the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct further review the above described allegations concerning Congressman Thompson.

VOTES IN THE AFFIRMATIVE: 6

VOTES IN THE NEGATIVE: 0

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OR STAFF DESIGNATED TO PRESENT THIS REPORT TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE: Leo Wise, Staff Director & Chief Counsel.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CITATIONS TO LAW

Review No. 09-2222

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OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CITATIONS TO LAW

Review No. 09-2222

On May 29, 2009 the Board adopted the following findings of fact and accompanying citations to law, regulations, rules and standards of conduct (*in italics*). The Board notes that these findings do not constitute a determination that a violation actually occurred.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Congressman Bennie Thompson attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten, N.A., from November 6-9, 2008. Congressman Thompson received funds from a private source to participate in the conference.

A. Summary of Allegations

2. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Thompson violated the requirement that he identify the "true, correct and accurate" sponsor of his travel "to the best of his knowledge" on his Member Post Travel Disclosure Form. While forms submitted to his office and the Standards Committee before the conference identified one entity as the sponsor—the Carib News Foundation—once at the conference, Congressman Thompson was presented with indications that other corporations—including Citigroup, IBM, AT&T, Pfizer, Macy's and Verizon Foundation—were also sponsors. Those indications proved to be true—the corporations were in fact sponsors of Congressman Thompson's travel according to House travel rules because the corporations had donated funds specifically for the conference (i.e. earmarked funds). Further, events that occurred in 2007 affected the Standards Committee's ability to determine whether these corporations were sponsors in 2008:
 - a. In 2007, the House of Representatives changed the rules governing travel. Those changes placed limitations on the number of days Members of Congress could participate in events (such as conferences) when their travel was sponsored by an entity that employs or retains a lobbyist. These changes affected the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference. In 2007, the Carib News Foundation continued to identify various corporations as sponsors on the

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conference agenda and on a draft version of the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form prepared for submission to the Standards Committee for approval. However, after interacting with the counsel to the then-Chair of the Standards Committee, and apparently without the knowledge of the staff attorney reviewing the trip, the documents identifying these corporations as "sponsors" were changed and their sponsorship was not disclosed.

- b. The 2007 conduct and attendant misrepresentations appear to have directly influenced what occurred in 2008. When the Carib News Foundation submitted materials to the Standards Committee for their approval of the 2008 conference, the Carib News Foundation took the same approach as in 2007 and did not disclose the role of the corporate sponsors on the forms they submitted to the Standards Committee.
3. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Thompson violated House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C) by accepting trip-related reimbursements from entities that employ or retain lobbyists for participating in an event for more than one day.
4. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Thompson violated House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B) by underreporting the value of the travel reimbursements he received to attend the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference.
5. There is substantial reason to believe that the Carib News Foundation's payment of travel expenses for Representative Thompson and his acceptance of payment violated the Internal Revenue Code. As stated above, Carib News Charities, the name previously held by the 501(c) organization now known as the Carib News Foundation, is listed as a private foundation in the Internal Revenue's cumulative list of charitable organizations, Publication 78. Therefore, the Standards Committee should not have approved the trip because the funds came from a prohibited source.

B. A Note on Culpability

6. These findings fall into four categories: (1) the sponsor or sponsors, as the case appears to be, of the conference; (2) the intervention of the counsel to the former Chair of the Standards Committee in the Standards Committee's review process of the conference in 2007 and how it affected the information before the Standards Committee in 2008; (3) the accuracy of the value of the reimbursement submitted by Congressman Thompson and (4) whether, because of its tax status, the Carib News Foundation could lawfully pay for Congressman Thompson's conference-related expenses.

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7. While all these topics are relevant, the Board notes that they do not all involve conduct by Congressman Thompson to the same degree.
 - a. As to topic 1, determining the identity of the true sponsor or sponsors implicates the conduct of both Congressman Thompson and the Standards Committee. Congressman Thompson told the OCE he relied on the Standards Committee to make that determination. It is the Board's view that the Member's approach is reasonable to a point. Once Congressman Thompson arrived at the conference, however, he was confronted with information that other corporations were co-sponsors. That information, at least in 2008, does not appear to have been before the Standards Committee when they initially approved the 2008 travel.
 - b. As to topic 2, the intervention of the counsel to the former Chair of the Standards Committee in the Standards Committee's review of the 2007 conference did not involve Congressman Thompson. Nonetheless, it directly bears on whether and to what extent the Standards Committee could determine the true sponsor of the conference in 2008.
 - c. As to topic 3, the accuracy of the information Congressman Thompson provided as to the value of the reimbursement of his conference-related expenses most directly implicates his conduct. The post-travel disclosure form that all Members must file when they accept privately sponsored travel is signed and certified by Members. The form puts the obligation on Members, not staff, not the Standards Committee and not sponsors, to certify that the information on the form is "true, accurate and complete" to the "best of the Member's knowledge." Congressman Thompson saw the value of his travel and retained copies of documents that showed its true value in his office files. Nonetheless, he certified inaccurate information on the post-travel disclosure form.
 - d. As to topic 4, limitations on Carib News Foundation's ability to pay for overseas travel of government officials, Congressman Thompson told the OCE he was unaware of any such limitations. The Board finds this statement to be credible. Nonetheless, the law prohibits such payments. Therefore, the Board feels compelled to include a discussion of this issue in this referral.

C. Jurisdictional Statement

8. The allegations that are the subject of this review concern Representative Bennie Thompson, a Member of the United States House of Representatives from the 2nd District of Mississippi. The Resolution the United States House of Representatives adopted

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creating the Office of Congressional Ethics directs that, "[n]o review shall be undertaken...by the board of any alleged violation that occurred before the date of adoption of this resolution."¹ The House adopted this Resolution on March 11, 2008. Because the conduct under review occurred or relates to actions taken after March 11, 2008, review by the Office of Congressional Ethics is in accordance with the Resolution.

D. Procedural History

9. A preliminary review in this matter commenced on March 6, 2009 following a written request by at least two members of the OCE Board which was made on February 23, 2009.
10. At least three members of the Board voted to initiate a second-phase review in this matter on March 27, 2009. The Board voted to extend the second-phase review by 14 days, as provided for under the Resolution, on April 24, 2009.
11. The second-phase review ended on May 26, 2009.
12. The Board voted to refer the matter to the Standards Committee for further review on May 29, 2009.
13. The OCE requested documents from and interviews with representatives of:
 - (1) Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee's Congressional office;
 - (2) the Verizon Foundation;
 - (3) Citibank;
 - (4) American Airlines;
 - (5) IBM;
 - (6) Macy's, Inc;
 - (7) Pfizer;
 - (8) AT&T;
 - (9) Representative Kilpatrick's Congressional office;

¹ House Resolution 895 of the 110th Congress, Section 1(e).

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

- (10) Representative Payne's Congressional office;
- (11) Representative Rangel's Congressional office;
- (12) Representative Thompson's Congressional office;
- (13) Delegate Christensen's Congressional office;
- (14) The Carib News; and
- (15) The Carib News Foundation

II. Multiple Entities, Including CARIB NEWS (the Newspaper), the Government of St. Maarten and Several Corporations, Sponsored Representative Thompson Trip

14. *Under House Rule 25 clause 5(d), Members are required to obtain prior approval of the Standards Committee for trips where the Member's travel expenses will be reimbursed by a private source. The Standards Committee has adopted regulations, pursuant to House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B)² that requires Members to identify the "sponsor(s)," i.e. the party reimbursing travel expenses, for any trip where the payor is a private entity.*

15. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Thompson violated the requirement that he identify the "true, correct and accurate" sponsor of his travel "to the best of his knowledge" on his Member Post Travel Disclosure Form. While forms submitted to his and the Standards Committee before the conference identified one sponsor—the Carib News Foundation—once at the conference, Congressman Thompson was presented with evidence that other corporations were also sponsors. As will be discussed below, those indications proved to be true—these corporations were in fact sponsors of Congressman Thompson's travel according to House travel rules because these corporations had donated funds specifically for the conference (i.e. earmarked funds).

A. Representative Thompson's Knowledge of The Involvement of These Corporations in the Conference

² House Rule 25(5)(h)(i)(1)(B) directs the Standards Committee to establish, "regulations describing the information it will require individuals subject to this clause to submit to the committee in order to obtain the prior approval of the committee for any travel covered by this clause . . ." On February 20, 2007, the Committee issued guidelines and regulations concerning the travel restrictions and requirements.

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16. On his Member Post-Travel Disclosure Form, Congressman Thompson listed Carib News Foundation as the only sponsor of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten, N.A. (hereafter "the trip" or "conference"³) in December 2008.⁴

Original Amendment

RESOURCE CENTER
C-5 PM 4:02
OFFICE CLERK
OF REPRESENTATIVES

**U.S. House of Representatives
110th Congress**

**MEMBER / OFFICER
POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM**

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties. You need not disclose government-funded or political travel on this form, or travel that is unrelated to official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report all privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual Financial Disclosure Statement. In accordance with clause 5 of House Rule 25, complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, B-106 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed. The Clerk is to make these forms available to the public as soon as possible after they are received.

1. Name of Traveler: Congressman Bennie G. Thompson

2. a. Name of Accompanying Family Member (if any): Dr. London Thompson

b. Relationship to Member/Officer: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____

3. a. Date of Departure and Date of Return: November 6, 2008 to November 9, 2008

b. Dates at personal expense (if any): NONE

4. Itinerary (cities of departure -- destination -- return): Jackson, MS to St. Maarten, N.A. to
Jackson, MS

5. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): Carib News Foundation

³ The "Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form" asks the filer at question 5, "Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip)." This in turn raises the question is a conference a "trip" or is a trip limited to the travel expenses associated with attending the trip, e.g., transportation, lodging and meal expenses? The House Ethics manual and the relevant forms use the terms "travel" and "trip" interchangeably. For example, the relevant form is called a Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form" (emphasis added). The introductory paragraph on the form provides, "[t]his form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties" (emphasis added). However, question 9 on the form asks the filer to detail, "TRIP EXPENSES" and uses as an example, "registration fees." Registration fees are not "travel" expenses unless one defines travel (or a trip) to include participating in a conference. The Board uses the term "trip" to include the conference. The Board also notes that the Standards Committee treated the conference as the "trip" in its letter pre-approving Congressman Thompson's trip.

⁴ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Representative Bennie G. Thompson (Dec. 5, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2222 0002).

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17. Congressman Thompson certified that this information was "true, correct and complete" to the "best of [his] knowledge."⁵

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER: Bennie J. Thompson

DATE: November 26, 2008

18. In an interview with the OCE, Congressman Thompson confirmed he signed this document.⁶
19. Prior to the conference, Karl Rodney, the CEO of the Carib News Foundation, submitted a Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form to Congressman Thompson, which he in turn submitted to the Standards Committee that identified the Carib News Foundation as the sponsor of the trip.⁷

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

⁵ *Id.* at 09-2222 0003.

⁶ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Bennie Thompson (May 6, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-2222 0024.3).

⁷ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form signed by Karl A. Rodney (Oct. 3, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2222 0008).

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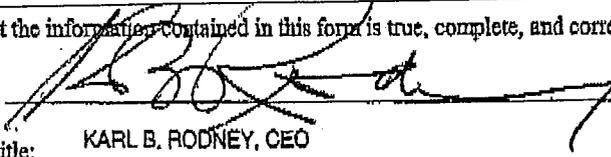
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20. Later, on that same form, Mr. Rodney represented that "the trip sponsor(s) [had] not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip."⁸

15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):

21. Rodney also certified that the information was "true, complete, and correct."⁹

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

22. Prior to the conference, the Standards Committee approved the reimbursement of Congressman Thompson's expenses by the Carib News Foundation.¹⁰

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Washington, DC 20515

October 20, 2008

The Honorable Bennie G. Thompson
U.S. House of Representatives
2432 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct hereby approves your proposed trip for you and your spouse to St. Maarten, N.A. scheduled for November 6 to 9, 2008 sponsored by the Carib News Foundation.

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ *Id.* at 09-2222 0010.

¹⁰ Letter from the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct to Representative Bennie G. Thompson (Oct. 20, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2222 0004).

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23. At the conference, several corporations, including Citibank, IBM, AT&T, and others, were identified as "sponsors."¹¹
24. On November 7, 2008, the conference's organizer, Karl Rodney, began the first morning program by thanking Citigroup, Pfizer, Macy's, IBM, AT&T, the Verizon Foundation and American Airlines, as well as their executives by name, who were present.¹² This morning session was recorded by an individual attending the conference and the recording was subsequently transcribed. The OCE obtained a copy of the transcript. Mr. Rodney described AT&T as "support[ing] the Conference all 13 years" (this was the thirteenth annual conference).¹³
25. Michael Flanigan, an executive from Citibank, spoke immediately after Mr. Rodney and described Citibank as the "lead sponsor of the premier event."¹⁴
26. Following Mr. Flanigan's remarks, and the remarks of several other speakers, Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick spoke. At the end of her remarks she stated, "[a]nd to the sponsors, by the way, all of you, we couldn't do this, be with you, help Karl if you weren't here with us so we say thank you very much, you are so important. To all of the sponsors, thank you very much."¹⁵
27. In an interview with the OCE, Congressman Thompson confirmed he attended this session of the conference.¹⁶

¹¹ Photographs taken at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (Exhibit 5 at 09-2222 0059-0067) (The Board notes that the source of this information may have a bias, interest, or motive in this matter.).

¹² Transcript of Recording of November 7, 2008 AM Session of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (Exhibit 34 at 09-2222 0026-0027_1-2) (The Board notes that the source of this information may have a bias, interest, or motive in this matter.).

¹³ *Id.* at 09-2222 0026.

¹⁴ *Id.* at 09-2222 0028.3.

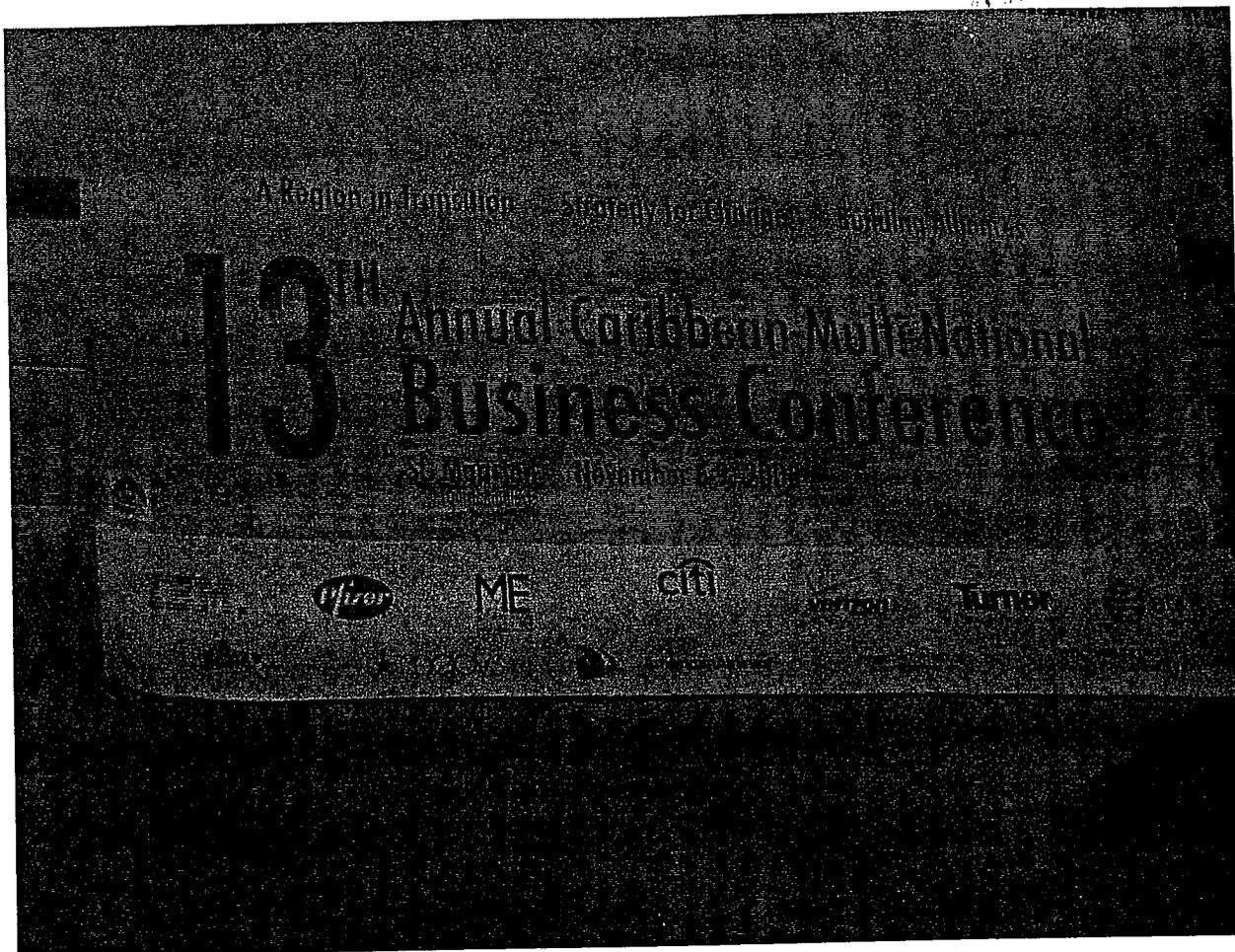
¹⁵ *Id.* at 09-2222 0043.

¹⁶ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Bennie Thompson (May 6, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-2222 0024.2).

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28. In addition to these comments, signs for the conference displayed these corporations' logos, including signs hung behind the speaker's podium.¹⁷



29. In an interview with the OCE, Congressman Thompson stated that he relied on the entity that invited him to the conference, the Carib News Foundation, to identify the sponsor of his trip and, further, that he relied on the Standards Committee, who pre-approved his trip, to determine if that information was accurate.¹⁸ As a result, Congressman Thompson told the OCE that the involvement of these corporations in the conference did not raise questions in his mind about whether the Carib News Foundation was the sole sponsor of the conference.¹⁹

30. The Board notes that the practice of relying entirely on the Standards Committee to determine the sponsor of a Member's travel carries with it a degree of risk. Further,

¹⁷ Photographs taken at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (Exhibit 5 at 09-2222 0059).

¹⁸ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Bennie Thompson (May 6, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-2222 0024.4).

¹⁹ *Id.* at 09-2222 0024.3.

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while Members are required to receive pre-approval from the Standards Committee before they travel, it is the Member, and not the Standards Committee, that is ultimately accepting the travel from a private sponsor. The Board reads the pre-clearance process as a free-standing requirement the House adopted in 2007. There is no indication that the House intended it to supplant, or at the very least to completely supplant, Members' responsibility to abide by the travel rules when they accept privately sponsored travel. As a result, it is the Board's view that a reasonable reading of the travel rules places responsibility for identifying the sponsor with both the Member and the Standards Committee and not the Standards Committee alone. This shared responsibility also reflects the practical reality that, because the Member actually takes the trip, and the Standards Committee does not, the Member may, in certain circumstances, have access to information about the trip not available to the Standards Committee. In this instance, the Member's had information about the sponsors of the conference not available to the Standards Committee, namely that numerous corporations were identified as sponsors of the conference.

31. Further, as described below, these other entities were, in fact, sponsors of the conference.

B. CARIB NEWS also Sponsored Congressman Thompson's Travel

32. Karl Rodney is the publisher of the CARIB NEWS, a weekly newspaper published in New York. He also identified himself as the CEO of the Carib News Foundation on the Private Sponsor Travel Certification described above.²⁰

33. According to Mr. Rodney, "general funds" of CARIB NEWS were "pooled" with payments from corporate sponsors, made both to CARIB NEWS and the Carib News Foundation and fees from attendees at the conference to pay conference expenses including "travel" and "hotel payments."²¹

34. Therefore, CARIB NEWS was also effectively a sponsor of Congressman Thompson's trip.

C. Corporate Donations Were Earmarked for the Conference

35. *According to the House Ethics Manual:*

²⁰ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form signed by Karl Rodney (Oct. 3, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2222 0010).

²¹ Letter from Joel Cohen, Counsel for Karl Rodney (May 18, 2009) (Exhibit 6 at 09-2222 0070).

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The rule and implementing regulations are concerned with the organization(s) or individual(s) that actually pay for travel. Thus, for example, when a nonprofit organization pays for travel with donations that were earmarked, either formally or informally, for the trip, each such donor is deemed a —private source for the trip and (1) must be publicly disclosed as a trip sponsor on the applicable travel forms and (2) must itself be required to satisfy the above standards on proper sources of travel expenses.

36. In the course of conducting its review, the OCE has learned that the Carib News Foundation solicited earmarked funds for the conference. For example, Carib News Foundation sent a solicitation letter to Citigroup, Inc.²²



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

April 04, 2008

Mr. Eric Eve
Senior Vice President
Community Relations
Global Consumer Group
Citigroup Inc.
850 Third Avenue, 12th floor
New York, NY 10022

Dear Mr. Eve: *Eric*

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

Your support and that of *CITI* went a long way to make the Conference a success, and has fostered on-going growth in business achievements and impactful policy decisions. We appreciate your encouragement, your personal participation, and the very stature your presence brings to the Conference. We do get concrete results and expressed appreciation of new opportunities.

We can assure you that all the key stakeholders, Members of Congress, Heads and Ministers of Government, Elected Officials, Community and Business Leaders are all aware and appreciative of yours and *CITI'S* participation in this very important mission.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. We know of your interest to deepen the *CITI* local, regional and global connections, and I know the Conference can achieve that. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

37. Attached to this solicitation letter was a PowerPoint presentation.²³ The presentation solicits money only for the conference and not for any other purpose, outlining the

²² Letter from Carib News Foundation to Mr. Eric Eve, Citigroup, Inc. (Apr. 4, 2008) (Exhibit 7 at 09-2222 0074-0075) (a nearly identical letter was sent to IBM, AT&T, Pfizer, Verizon Foundation and others).

²³ *Id.* at 09-2222 0076-0091.

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benefits of each level of sponsorship – Platinum, Gold, and Silver, along with lesser levels of sponsorship – in terms of the conference.²⁴ In each instance, the sponsorship covers travel related expenses such as gala events and meals.

PARTICIPATION

PLATINUM LEVEL - \$75,000

- ◆ **Keynote Speaker at Main Event**
- ◆ **Sponsor Private VIP Reception and specially arranged forum**
- ◆ **Special Awards Presentation**
- ◆ **Display, Exhibition and signage**
- ◆ **Area of Conference -Reserved for exclusive sponsorship**
- ◆ **Full page Ad in program**
- ◆ **Air Transportation for 2 people**
- ◆ **Accommodations: One Suite and One Standard Room**
- ◆ **Included in all printed materials**
- ◆ **Included in Internet promotion**
- ◆ **Display company logo and link to our website**
- ◆ **Sponsor of a Gala Event**
- ◆ **Sponsor and Participate in a workshop**
- ◆ **Representative listed in program with bio and photo**

²⁴ *Id.* at 09-2222 0084-0087.

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PARTICIPATION

GOLD LEVEL - \$50,000

- ◆ Sponsor a Workshop
- ◆ Sponsor a Gala Event
- ◆ Display, Exhibition and signage
- ◆ Included in all Printed Material
- ◆ Included in all Internet Promotion
- ◆ Display of Company Logo and Link to Our Website
- ◆ Full Page Ad in Program
- ◆ Representation in the Brochure
- ◆ Air Transportation & room accommodations for 1



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PARTICIPATION

SILVER LEVEL - \$25,000

- ◆ Sponsor & Participate in a Workshop
- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in all printed materials
- ◆ Included in Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Sponsor an event i.e. breakfast, lunch or dinner
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in program with bio & photos
- ◆ Representatives listed in brochure

38. The OCE also learned that at least four of the corporations identified at the conference did in fact, make payments to the Carib News Foundation and CARIB NEWS (the newspaper) earmarked for the conference. The Carib News Foundation itself appears to

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be nothing more than a conduit in this case, and a partial one at that, for payments from corporations to support the conference. There is no evidence that the organization has filed a tax return with the IRS, under either Carib News Foundation or Carib News Charities, since 2005.²⁵ On its 2005 Form 990, the Carib News Foundation is shown as having no assets, no income and no expenses.²⁶ Not a single witness from a sponsor interviewed by the OCE knew of any other work of the Foundation. Indeed one witness, from IBM, was not aware that the Foundation played a role in the conference.²⁷

39. **Citigroup.** Citigroup made a \$75,000 payment to the CARIB NEWS for the conference.²⁸

40. **Verizon Foundation.** Verizon Foundation made a \$35,000 payment to the Carib News Charities²⁹ for the conference.³⁰

²⁵ Letter from IRS to OCE (April 17, 2009) (Exhibit 8 at 09-2222 0096-0108).

²⁶ *Id.* at 09-2222 0096-0108.

²⁷ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of IBM (May 8, 2009) (Exhibit 9 at 09-2222 0112).

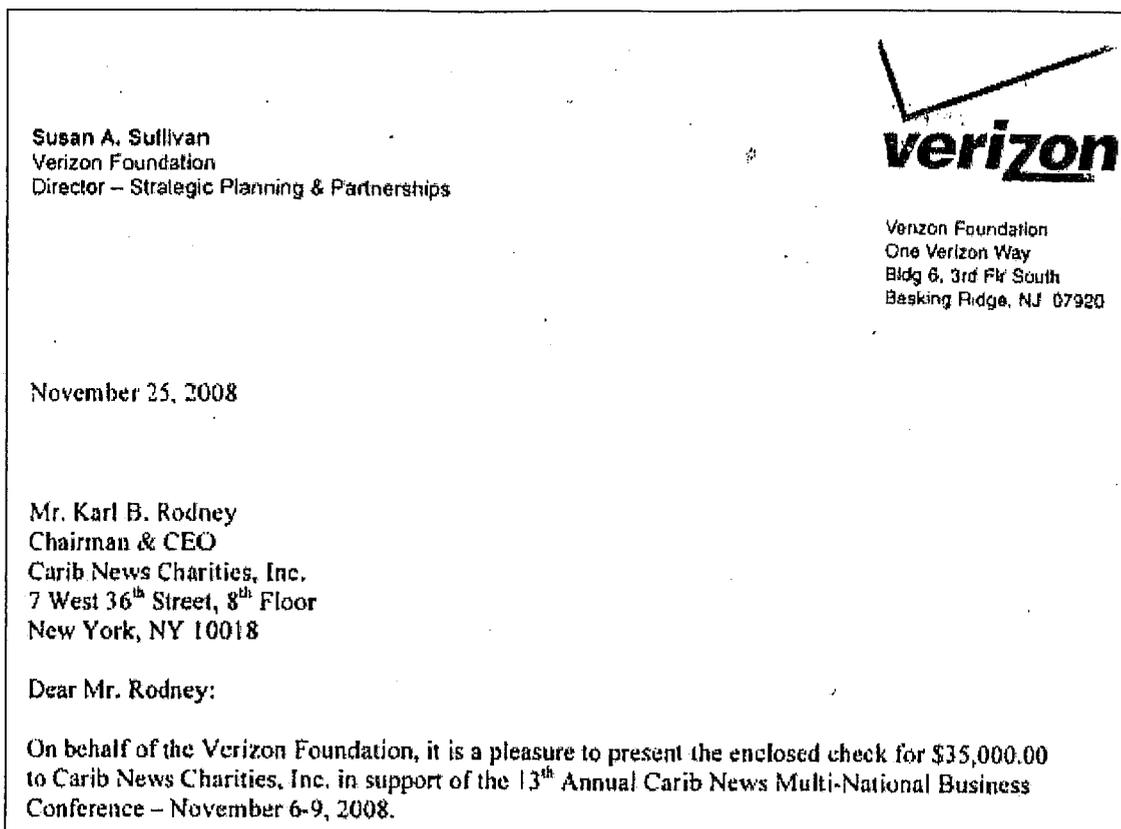
²⁸ Documents submitted to the OCE by Citigroup (Exhibit 7 at 09-2222 0073).

²⁹ Mr. Rodney accepted corporate payments under the names of three entities: The Carib News, the Carib News Foundation, and the Carib News Charities. According to the Secretary of State for the State of New York, the organization that currently operates as the Carib News Foundation originally operated under the name the Carib News Charities.

³⁰ Documents Submitted to the OCE by the Verizon Foundation (Exhibit 10 at 09-2222 0117).

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41. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation said the Verizon Foundation funded the Carib News Foundation for the first time in 2008 and that the grant was issued to provide funding for the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference.³¹
42. **IBM.** IBM made a \$20,000 payment to Carib News Foundation for the conference as indicated on the invoice that CARIB NEWS, INC. (not Carib News Foundation) sent IBM.³²

³¹ Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Verizon Foundation (Mar. 23, 2009) (Exhibit 11 at 09-2222 0130).

³² Documents submitted by IBM to the OCE (Exhibit 13 at 09-2222 0140).

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CARIB NEWS INC. 7 WEST 36TH STREET 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, 10018 212-944-1991		Invoice	
		Date	Invoice #
		7/16/2008	45122
Bill To			
Wanda McKenzie IBM 2607 Jesters Court Marietta, GA 30068			
Description		Amount	
Sponsorship Multi-National Business Conference 2008 TAX ID 13-362060		20,000.00	

- 43. **Macy's.** Macy's made a \$35,000 payment to CARIB NEWS for the conference.³³
- 44. **Pfizer.** Pfizer made a \$25,000 payment to CARIB NEWS for the conference.³⁴
- 45. Only American Airlines explicitly limited their sponsorship of the conference to individuals who were not elected officials, prohibiting CARIB NEWS from using any part of their sponsorship on Members of Congress and other government officials and their staff.³⁵ No other sponsor with whom we spoke placed restrictions on how or on whom their contribution could be spent. The only expectation was that the contribution would be used for expenses associated with the conference.

D. Because Entities that Employ or Retain Lobbyists Sponsored the Event, Congressman Thompson's Involvement Should Have Been Limited to One Day

³³ Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Macy's (Exhibit 20 at 09-2222 0233).
³⁴ Interview with Investigative Counsel on May 22, 2009.
³⁵ Documents submitted by American Airlines to the OCE (Exhibit 14 at 09-2222 0143) and OCE Investigative Counsel interview with American Airlines Representative (Mar. 5, 2009) (American Airlines provided an in-kind contribution in the form of ten roundtrip tickets to be used by Carib News in any manner they chose with the exception that no ticket could be used for an elected official or the official's staff or family. The estimated value of their contribution was between \$6,200 and \$7,500).

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46. *According to the House Ethics Manual:*

***One-Day Event Trip.** The sole exception to the general prohibition on accepting officially-connected travel from a private source that retains or employs lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal is for trips involving attendance at or participation in one-day event (exclusive of travel time and an overnight stay).*

*Under the rule, it is permissible for a Member or staff person to accept and meals related to **a single night's lodging** and meals related to the trip, if offered by the trip sponsor. Members and staff must limit their involvement in connection with the event to **a single calendar day**, exclusive of travel time and an overnight stay. A Member or staff person may therefore attend only a single day of a multiple-day conference, forum, or other event that is being hosted primarily for individuals other than congressional invitees.*

*Under the Committee's travel regulations and guidelines implementing the travel provisions of the gift rule, the Committee may permit **a second night's stay** when determined —on a case-by-case basis to be practically required to participate in the one-day event (House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)). Some circumstances in which the Committee may permit a second night's stay are for certain long-distance trips, when a Member or staff person is participating in a full day's worth of officially-connected activities such that a second night's stay is necessary to accomplish the purpose of the trip, or other exceptional circumstances that are described in detail by the traveler. The traveler will be personally responsible for any expenses incurred beyond those allowed by the Committee in connection with the second night's stay.³⁶*

47. Citigroup, IBM and Verizon employ or retain lobbyists.³⁷

48. Congressman Thompson spent four days at the conference at the expense of the third-party.³⁸

³⁶ House Ethics Manual at 92-93 (citing House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)) (emphasis in original)).

³⁷ Clerk of the House of Representatives Lobbying Disclosure Report 2008 (excerpt attached hereto as “”) (Exhibit 15”), at 09-2222 0148 - 0154).

³⁸ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Representative Bennie G. Thompson (Dec. 5, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2222 0002).

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49. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Thompson violated *House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)* by accepting trip-related reimbursements from entities that employ or retain lobbyists for participating in an event for more than one day.

E. The Government of St. Maarten Made In-Kind Donations to the 2008 Conference and Played a Significant Role in Planning, Organizing and Conducting the 2008 Conference

50. The Government of St. Maarten was the host of the 2008 conference.

51. In that capacity, the Government of St. Maarten provided in-kind donations to support the conference and also had a substantial role in planning the conference. As a result, it was effectively a sponsor of the 2008 conference.³⁹

52. Rodney provided the Leader of Government of St. Maarten, Commissioner Sarah Wescott-Williams, with a list of "Basic Requirements to Host Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference."⁴⁰ These included:

³⁹ In 2007, the "host" of the conference was the Government of Antigua and Barbuda. In the event that the Government of Antigua and Barbuda provided the same support as St. Maarten did in 2008, then the members may have accepted gifts from a foreign government which would have been reportable under the Foreign Gift and Decorations Act. In addition, if the Government of Antigua provided these gifts to the Members, and if they were more than \$335 in value, then the Members should have disclosed them on their financial disclosure form for 2007, which was filed in May 2008.

⁴⁰ Letter from Karl Rodney to Commissioner Sarah Wescott-Williams (Aug. 13, 2008) (Exhibit 16 at 09-2222 0156).

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- To provide the care and comfort for the VIP's attending i.e.
 - To provide 25 all-inclusive rooms for the VIP's and members of Congress attending;
 - To provide appropriate mode of transportation for VIP's and members of Congress - cars or specialized vans - not buses;
- To be a designated sponsor in one of the categories- *Title, Main or Regular Sponsor* (See Attachment)
- To organize a "Host Country Evening" - The Friday evening, the host country will host at an appropriate location an evening of food, refreshment, cultural presentation and entertainment.
- Provide for local entertainment for the various functions --
 - The Opening Ceremonies
 - The Reception
 - The Gala Dinner
- To assist in Promotion and Publicity of the conference both locally and through international offices and official publications.
- Assist in securing competitive hotel rates.
- Equip and staff conference secretariat.
- Prime Minister to issue invitations along with CARIB NEWS to members of the US Congress, other Prime Ministers and Ministers of Government
- Participate in the Forum with Members of Congress.
- Arrange tours and activities of interest for VIP's and/or their spouse.

53. According to a statement from Mr. Rodney submitted to the OCE, the Government of St. Maarten, (1) developed local Host Committees to facilitate local planning; (2) helped negotiate the rate with the hotel, (3) assisted in developing the theme of the Conference, (4) assisted in identifying local speakers, including the Leader of Government, (5) assisted in local publicity, (6) provided local entertainment, including a school choir and cultural items, (7) arranged Host Country Evening on Friday, November 8 (the whole group was transported to another property for refreshments and entertainment), (8) helped with local transportation for some CARIB NEWS employees and helped arrange accommodations for some guests (not paying for such accommodations), (9) participated as event speakers, and (10) issued invitations to attend to specially invited guests.⁴¹

⁴¹ Letter from Joel Cohen, Counsel for Karl Rodney (May 18, 2009) (Exhibit 6 at 09-2222 0069-0070).

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These contributions to the conference were all in-kind, according to Mr. Rodney, and he did not provide an estimated value for them.⁴²

54. In addition, because these donations to the conference are from a foreign government, Members are required to take certain actions under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act.⁴³

55. Representative Thompson told the OCE that he was unaware of what role the Government of St. Maarten played in the conference.⁴⁴

III. Role of the Chair's Counsel in the Approval of the 12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in 2007

56. As previously stated, Congressman Thompson told the OCE that he relied on the Standards Committee to determine who the true sponsor of the conference was based on information the Standards Committee received from the organization that invited him to the conference—the Carib News Foundation.⁴⁵ In the course of the Board's review, the OCE requested documents from Mr. Karl Rodney, the CEO of the Carib News Foundation. Mr. Rodney voluntarily submitted documents to the OCE that included, among other things, communication with certain members of the staff of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct in 2007. The contents of these documents from 2007 are relevant because they indicate the role of the corporations was concealed from the Committee in 2008.

57. The Board requested that the Committee provide the information submitted to it for 2008 and the Committee declined to do so.

58. The documents submitted by Mr. Rodney show that in 2007 the CARIB NEWS initially identified, on several occasions, other corporations as sponsors of the Conference. The designation of these corporate entities as sponsors presented a problem for CARIB NEWS and the Members who wished to attend the conference insofar as their attendance would be limited to one day. In 2007, as a result of changes in the travel rules, a Member could not, in most instances, participate in an event (such as a conference) for more than one day if their travel to and participation in the event was paid for by an entity that

⁴² *Id.*

⁴³ 5 U.S.C. § 7342.

⁴⁴ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Bennie Thompson (May 6, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-2222 0024.4).

⁴⁵ *Id.*

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employed or retained a lobbyist.⁴⁶ Many of the corporate entities who sponsored the 2007, as well as the 2008 conference, employed or retained lobbyists. Although CARIB NEWS initially identified these entities as sponsors, following interactions with the counsel to the then-chair of the Committee, apparently without the knowledge of the Standards Committee staff attorney assigned to review the trip, the documents identifying these organizations as sponsors were changed.

59. Subsequently, in 2008, the Carib News Foundation submitted documents that omitted the role of these other corporations as sponsors of the conference. Further, the staff attorney assigned to review the trip in 2008 was not the same staff attorney that reviewed the trip in 2007.

60. The earliest communication between CARIB NEWS or the Carib News Foundation and anyone associated with the Ethics Committee in the documents submitted to the OCE from Mr. Rodney is an e-mail dated September 17, 2007 from Patricia Louis, an Executive Assistant at CARIB NEWS, to Dawn Kelly Mobley, Counsel to the then-Chair of the Ethics Committee.⁴⁷

61. The next day, on September 18, 2007, Ms. Mobley responded and asked for "any information on your sponsor's status."⁴⁸

62. That same day Ms. Louis responded, indentifying multiple corporations as "sponsors" of the trip.⁴⁹

⁴⁶ House Ethics Manual (2008) at 92-93 (citing House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)).

⁴⁷ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Sept. 17, 2007, 3:47 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0205) (The Board elected not to interview Ms. Mobley and Ms. Olson because the Standards Committee voted against disclosing information to the OCE. The Board determined that it would have been an act of bad faith on the part of the OCE to attempt to interview staff and former staff of the Standards Committee in light of the Committee's refusal to grant OCE access to their records.)

⁴⁸ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 18, 2007, 12:57 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0205).

⁴⁹ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Sept. 18, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0205). (The Board notes that while the document that contains the e-mail does not have a header which indicates a date and time, both the e-mail before it and responding to it are dated September 18, 2007).

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We had received the forms from Shelley.
The sponsors to date are : MACYS, PFIZER, AMERICAN AIRLINES, GOLDEN KRUST BAKERY, CARIBBEAN FOOD DELIGHTS, PREFERRED HEALTH PARTNERS, IBM, AT&T/CINGULAR

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

63. In response that same day, Ms. Mobley asked, “[d]o any of these organizations have or retain a lobbyist?”⁵⁰
64. The next day, Ms. Mobley further responded asking Ms. Louis whether she, Ms. Mobley, should “assume” the sponsor was CARIB NEWS, despite the fact that Ms. Louis had not identified CARIB NEWS as a sponsor.⁵¹ The Board notes that in her e-mail, Ms. Louis did not identify CARIB NEWS as a sponsor. Further, Ms. Mobley acknowledged that she had been told corporations identified by Ms. Louis were “sponsoring food and other parts of the Antigua travel.” Under House rules in place at the time, and under current rules, sponsoring a meal makes these corporations sponsors of a Member’s travel.⁵² The Board also notes Ms. Mobley’s use of the phrase “safe review,” which the Board takes to mean a review which results in approval of the trip.

⁵⁰ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 18, 2007, 7:03 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0204).

⁵¹ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 19, 2007, 2:16 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0204).

⁵² House Ethics Manual (2008) at 97-98.

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From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 2:16 PM
To: 'plouis'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Patricia:

I understand that several organizations will take part in sponsoring food and other parts of the Antigua travel. However, I need clarification on the *official* sponsor; that organization providing travel, lodging, and organizing the trip? Am I to assume it is CARIB NEWS? The official sponsoring organization must not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent (and the sponsor must have a direct and immediate relationship with the event or location being visited). To assist with this, I am scanning information/guidelines and emailing in just a moment. Please provide a fax number if that method of submittal will be more helpful. If there is someone handling this matter, please provide me their direct contact information as I must ensure adherence to these new guidelines pre-travel.

In any event, I do need to know who the official sponsor will be. I have assigned a staff attorney to review your documents and will remain in contact with you until this matter is finalized.

Please respond today or tomorrow at the latest. I will be traveling for a while thereafter and must ensure that my staff attorney has all that is necessary for a safe review.

Dawn Kelly Mobley
Ethics Counsel for Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones
Chairwoman, Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
202/225-7103

65. Later in the afternoon on September 19, 2007, Ms. Mobley sent Ms. Louis another e-mail where she discussed the limitations posed by the new travel rules the House had adopted in 2007. Ms. Mobley told Ms. Louis, "the new rules might prohibit some things you were able to do with so many different sponsors in the past." Thus, Ms. Mobley again acknowledged that these corporations were sponsors and that the new travel rules affected the nature of their participation in the trip.⁵³

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 3:23 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Lastly, just send the sponsor form asap for review. The new rules might prohibit some things you were able to do with so many different sponsors in the past, but until we get the form, we can't make the most informed decision. I have let the Congresswomen know we are awaiting your sponsor form. Just as you do, they would also like assurance. Thank you.

66. On September 21, 2007, Ms. Louis responded.⁵⁴

⁵³ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 19, 2007, 3:23 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0204).

⁵⁴ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Sept. 21, 2007, 1:56 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0202).

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Registration

From: plouis [plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2007 1:56 PM
To: 'Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Re Sponsorship Information

The official sponsor of the conference is the CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION, a not-for-profit 501C3 Organization that provides educational information about the Caribbean Region and its relationship with the US in doing business and developing good neighborly ties with the United States, security, health, education etc.

The CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION does not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent.

Please use me as your contact for the purposes of this Conference.

The form will be emailed to you this afternoon.

Regards

Patricia Louis

Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

67. That same day, on September 21, 2007, Ms. Louis faxed Ms. Mobley a Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form. On the form Carib News Foundation is listed as the sponsor of the trip in question 1.⁵⁵

⁵⁵ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form (Sept. 21, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0192).

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**U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct**

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

Carib News Foundatin

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): _____

68. However, the Carib News Foundation listed a number of corporations as private sponsors, each with responsibility for planning and conducting the trip, in question 12.⁵⁶ This is at least the second instance where the Carib News Foundation identified these corporations as the trip's sponsors.

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: Pfizer Education/Health AT&T and IBM - provide technology to the region. MACY's - seeks new vendor sources, Citibank - opportunities in the region.

69. This prompted the following e-mail from Ms. Mobley to Ms. Louis.⁵⁷ The Board notes that Ms. Mobley stated she was "working through" the Carib News Foundation's forms "before leaving them with our staff attorney."

⁵⁶ *Id.*

⁵⁷ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 25, 2007, 12:42 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0189).

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From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2007 12:42 PM
To: 'plouis'
Subject: Query

I am working through your forms before leaving them with our staff attorney and have a question. Query: Why did you not list CARIB NEWS as the sponsor as you'd indicated instead of Macy's, etc. The official sponsor for travel, lodging, and planning is still Carib News, correct?

70. Later that same day, Ms. Mobley queried further.⁵⁸ At least as of this date, following at least two instances where Ms. Louis identified these corporations as sponsors, Ms. Mobley appeared to treat these entities as "co-sponsors."

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:08 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Query

We are trying to work through a problem in approving the co-sponsors piece. Are they each paying for a one-day, widely attended event or more days? Please read the Gift Rules I forwarded you on this matter.

71. On October 3, 2007, Ms. Mobley informed Ms. Louis that Susan Olson was the staff attorney assigned to review the trip.⁵⁹

72. A copy of the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form provided to a Member's office on October 5, 2007, shows that by October 5, 2007, following its interaction with Ms. Mobley, Carib News Foundation changed its answer to question 12 regarding other private sponsors. As previously highlighted, as of September 21, 2007, Carib News Foundation provided the following answer to question 12.⁶⁰

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: Pfizer Education/Health AT&T and IBM - provide technology to the region. MACY's - seeks new vendor sources, Citibank - opportunities in the region.

73. However, as of October 5, 2007, it provided a different answer to question 12.⁶¹

⁵⁸ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Sept. 25, 2007, 5:08 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0189).

⁵⁹ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 3, 2007, 12:39 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0186).

⁶⁰ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form (Sept. 21, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0193).

⁶¹ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form (Oct. 5, 2007) (Exhibit 18 at 09-2222.0208).

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12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (SEE ATTACHED SHEET)

And the attached sheet provided the following information.⁶²

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

On October 10, 2007, Susan Olson, the staff attorney on the Standards Committee assigned to review the trip e-mailed Ms. Louis the following questions⁶³ (and copied Ms. Mobley and the Chief Counsel of the Standards Committee at that time, Bill O'Reilly). While the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form for the trip had been changed by this date, the draft agenda for the conference apparently had not and still showed corporate sponsors for various events. What Ms. Olson does not appear to be aware of is the fact that Carib News Foundation had previously identified the same corporations she is raising questions about as private sponsors on its original Private Sponsor Travel Certification form.

Original Message

From: Olson, Susan [mailto: Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn.Kelly.Mobley@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's

⁶² *Id.* at 09-2222 0212

⁶³ E-mail from Susan Olson to Patricia Louis (Oct. 10, 2007, 4:01 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0174-0175).

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(Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are sponsoring sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]" which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

74. The Committee's Advisory Opinion dated October 27, 2006 indicates, as Ms. Olson wrote, that Carib News Foundation told the Standards Committee in 2006 that there were several corporate entities that sponsored the conference.⁶⁴ The "Advisory Opinion" did not conclude that these entities were, in fact, the trip's sponsors, as the e-mail seems to indicate.

⁶⁴ Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, Advisory Opinion (Oct. 27, 2006) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0198-0200).

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75. A draft agenda for the conference dated October 3, 2007, identified a “sponsor” for each event listed.⁶⁵ This appears to be the version of the agenda that Olson is referring to in her e-mail. For example, “Preferred Health Partners” is identified as the sponsor of this event on “Port & Airport Security—The Mandates.”⁶⁶

<u>PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES</u>	
Moderator	Lance Ogiste Hon. Bennie Thompson
Speakers	Dr. Hazel Wilson
Venue	
Sponsor	Preferred Health Partners

And Citi is identified as the sponsor of this event on “Community Outreach – Education – Access and Collaboration.”⁶⁷

4:00pm - 5:30pm	-	<u>COMMUNITY OUTREACH -</u> <u>EDUCATION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION</u>
Venue:	-	Off Site
Sponsor	-	CITI
Moderator:	-	Michael Flanigan
Speakers:	-	Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College Hon. Danny Davis - Member of Congress Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress Hon. Bertrand Joseph

⁶⁵ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 3, 2007) (Exhibit 19 at 09-2222 0214).

⁶⁶ *Id.* at 09-2222 0219-0220.

⁶⁷ *Id.* at 09-2222 0226.

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76. Ms. Louis forwarded Ms. Olson's e-mail to Ms. Mobley, Congressman Charles Rangel's Chief of Staff George Dalley and Delegate Donna Christensen's scheduler Shelley Thomas, and asked them to advise her on a response.⁶⁸

-----Original Message-----
From: plouis <plouis@nycaribnews.com>
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn Thomas, Shelley Dalley, George
Sent: Wed, Oct 10 17:56:25 2007
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Please see e-mail I received from Ms. Olson of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

A possible response could be: The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation. As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Please advise us.

Regards and Thanks

Ms. Louis appears to be pre-clearing her response to questions posed by the Standards Committee staff attorney. There is no indication that the staff attorney knew that the answer to her question had already been discussed with the counsel to the then-chair of the Standards Committee. Substantively, based on documents obtained by the OCE and interviews with sponsors, the statement "the sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip" appears to be true. However, the statement "and the general work of the Foundation," does not appear to be true. All of the sponsors OCE interviewed stated unequivocally that the contribution was intended for the conference.⁶⁹

⁶⁸ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley, George Dalley, and Shelley Thomas (Oct. 10, 2007, 5:56 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0180).

⁶⁹ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of IBM (May 8, 2009) (Exhibit 9); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation (Mar. 23, 2009) (Exhibit 11); Memorandum of Interview of Representative of Citi (Mar. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 4); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Macy's (May 28, 2009) (Exhibit 20).

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77. Less than an hour later Ms. Mobley responded.⁷⁰ The Board notes Ms. Mobley's concern with whether any of the corporate sponsors paid for an event and also retained a lobbyist⁷¹ and her conclusion that if they did, Members of Congress could only attend for one day.

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 6:49 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Her question centers on whether any of these "co-sponsors" retains a lobbyist or foreign. This is the issue you and I focused on previously. It is a central problem if any do and are paying for the events. If so, you are in the same position as last year with one-day events. Call Susan back tomorrow as early as possible. Hopefully, these co-sponsors don't retain lobbyists, but you should have their representations on this matter. At a minimum, Macy's does, right? Alternatively, if they are only sponsoring event tables or the like, a lobbyist will not be problematic.

Sent using BlackBerry

78. Ms. Louis then faxed Ms. Mobley.⁷¹ The Board notes that Ms. Louis again appears to be pre-clearing her responses to the staff attorney, Ms. Olson, with Ms. Mobley ("Kindly review and advise before I send to Ms. Olson.").

⁷⁰ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 10, 2007, 6:49 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0180).

⁷¹ Fax from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Oct. 11, 2007) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0177).

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THE NEW YORK CARIB NEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 56TH STREET, 48 FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Dawn Kelly Mobley

FROM: P. Louis *P. Louis*

COMPANY: Ethics Counsel for Cong. Stephanie
Tubbs Jones

DATE: 10/11/07

FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER

RE: Travel Form

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Further to our conversations of this morning, following is the Travel Certification Form ..

The Conference is paid for by the Carib News Foundation. The companies are participants, are not sponsors or co-sponsors for any part of the trip and play no role in the planning or content.

The program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants.

I regret the mis-understanding and thank you for holding my hand as I go through and grow through this process which is new to me.

Kindly review and advise before I send to Ms. Olsen.

I look forward to hearing from you.

79. The Board further notes that Ms. Louis represented that, "the program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants," an action taken following Ms. Louis' interactions with Ms. Mobley. A copy of the revised agenda was submitted by another

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Member of Congress who attended the conference.⁷² The Board notes that this “updated” schedule changed the label applied to “sponsors” to “participants” and in some cases deleted any mention of the corporate entity that had previously been identified as a “sponsor.”

10/24/2007 19:00 2129442089

Updated Schedule
for Carib Nov 25
PAGE 08

WORKING DRAFT 10/22

12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
Antigua & Barbuda

80. This event was previously identified in the earlier draft as being “sponsored” by Preferred Health Partners.⁷³ Now it identifies them as merely a “participant.”⁷⁴

PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES

Moderator : Mr. Lance Ogiste
Hon. Bernice Thompson
Hon. Dwer Astephan

Venue Sandals Grande

Participant - Preferred Health Partners

⁷² Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 22, 2007) (Exhibit 21 at 09-2222 0236).

⁷³ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 3, 2007) (Exhibit 19 at 09-2222 0219 – 0220).

⁷⁴ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 22, 2007) (Exhibit 21 at 09-2222 0240).

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81. In another example, the Board notes that the following event was previously identified as being sponsored by CITI.⁷⁵ Now CITI is not even mentioned.⁷⁶ Michael Flanigan, the moderator, was an executive at CITI at the time and represented the company at the conference.⁷⁷

5:00pm - 6:30pm	-	COMMUNITY OUTREACH - <u>EDUCATION & YOUTH DIRECTION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION</u>
Venue:	-	Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Center
Moderator:	-	Michael Flanigan
Speakers:	-	Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress Hon. Bertrand Joseph

82. These changes were entirely cosmetic. There is no indication that the corporations' substantive role in the conference changed in any way.

83. That same day, October 11, 2007, Ms. Louis responded to Ms. Olson, stating that "[t]he sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip."⁷⁸ The Board notes that this is precisely the answer she had pre-cleared with Mobley.

⁷⁵ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 3, 2007) (Exhibit 19 at 09-2222 0226).

⁷⁶ Working Draft of the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference Program (Oct. 22, 2007) (Exhibit 21 at 09-2222 0246).

⁷⁷ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of Citi (Mar. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 4).

⁷⁸ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Susan Olson (Oct. 10, 2007, 10:33 AM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0174).

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From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycaribnews.com].
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:33 AM
To: Olson, Susan
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,
In response to your e-mail:
The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation.
As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

No federally registered lobbyist or foreign agent will be accompanying the Members of participating in the program.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

84. Ms. Olson then forwarded her exchange with Ms. Louis to Bill O'Reilly, the Staff Director and Chief Counsel of the Ethics Committee at that time, and to Dawn Mobley.⁷⁹ Based on this e-mail, it appears that Ms. Olson was unaware that Mobley had been communicating directly with the Carib News Foundation. There is also no evidence that Ms. Mobley told her she had been involved in this manner. Witnesses for the various sponsors told the OCE that they did contribute funding directly to the trip (the conference) and in no case did they simply make donations to the "general funds" of the CARIB NEWS or the Carib News Foundation.⁸⁰

⁷⁹ E-mail from Susan Olson to Bill O'Reilly and Dawn Kelly Mobley (Oct. 12, 2007 9:29 AM) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0174).

⁸⁰ Memorandum of Interview of Representative of IBM (May 8, 2009) (Exhibit 9); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation (Mar. 23, 2009) (Exhibit 11); Memorandum of Interview of Representative of Citi (Mar. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 4); Memorandum of Interview of Representative 1 of Macy's (May 28, 2009) (Exhibit 20).

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From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:29 AM
To: O'Reilly, Bill; Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Bill and Dawn,
Please note the following response from Ms. Louis at Carib News: Unfortunately, it appears that if each sponsor contributes funding directly to the trip (an earmark of funds) and not simply to the general funds of Carib News, then the assumption is that all of these entities are co-sponsors of the trip for purposes of the House travel rules. If that is the case and since it is likely that at least one of these co-sponsors hires or retains a federally registered lobbyist, the trip could only be a one-day event trip. Thus the Committee can't approve the trip as it currently exists.

But, if you have a different interpretation of the below information from Ms. Louis, please do let me know. Thanks! Susan

85. Ms. Mobley then forwarded Ms. Olson's internal e-mail to Ms. Louis.⁸¹ The Board notes that Ms. Mobley counseled that these "other organizations" can "participate" in the program but "should not help pay for the trip."

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:59 AM
To: plouis
Subject: FW: Confidential

Please read both emails below. Give Susan a call as soon as you work through the kink, let her know you are following up. Please make yourself available to work through this matter today. Thank you Patricia. (These other organizations can participate in the program but should not help pay for the trip).

86. Later that day, Ms. Mobley sent Ms. Louis an additional e-mail.⁸² As previously stated, the sponsors whom the OCE interviewed all stated that they did not "support [the] foundation annually" and did specifically designate their donations for the 2007 conference. Either Ms. Mobley was repeating inaccurate information Ms. Louis had given her, or she was giving inaccurate information to Ms. Olson without prompting.

⁸¹ E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 12, 2007 9:59 AM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0173).

⁸² E-mail from Dawn Kelly Mobley to Patricia Louis (Oct. 12, 2007 1:55 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0173).

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Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]

Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 1:55 PM

To: plouis

Subject: RE: Confidential

The fax did not come through. I will be stepping out of the office for the remainder of the day, but will be in early Monday. Please follow up again with Susan. I have explained that the organizations you labeled as co-sponsors are not. They support your foundation annually, but have not and will not pay for the Members trip. This is simply a misunderstanding of the terms "sponsor", "contributor", and "participant" as used in the Ethics rules which is why I sent you the Rules book for preparation.

Once you are able to clarify these issues and make sure your itinerary passes too, you should be fine. An Ethics Committee Staff Attorney must review and approve as well. Your Staff Attorney is Susan.

87. Ms. Olson then sent Ms. Louis additional questions about the corporate entities previously identified as "sponsors."⁸³

From: Olson, Susan

Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 2:41 PM

To: plouis

cc: Kelly Mobley, Dawn; O'Reilly, Bill

Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Louis,

Please explain in more detail your email message below relative to the "sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip." In this regard, do the following entities pay for any of the expenses of the trip for the invited House Members, including roundtrip air transportation costs, lodging costs, meal costs, cost of a particular meal or reception, etc.?

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM

⁸³ E-mail from Susan Olson to Patricia Louis (Oct. 12, 2007 2:41 PM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0169).

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- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

88. Three days later, Ms. Louis sent an e-mail to Ms. Mobley, but addressed to Ms. Olson.⁸⁴ This may have been inadvertent or, based on their previous practice, Ms. Louis may have done this before she then sent it to Ms. Olson. This is the final communication regarding the 2007 conference provided to the OCE.

From: plouis [plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 11:00 AM
To: 'Kelly Mobley, Dawn'
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,
In response to your e-mail, the answer to your question is NO.

Regards and Thanks for your patience.

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

89. In an interview with the OCE, a staff member of Representative Rangel's office, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office, described discussions with Ms. Louis and Ms. Mobley in 2007 on the topic of how the new travel rules would affect the Members' participation in the 2007 conference.⁸⁵ The staff member said that Ms. Louis, and Mr. and Mrs. Rodney told him that the then Chair of the Standards Committee had assigned

⁸⁴ E-mail from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Oct. 18, 2007 11:00 AM EST) (Exhibit 17 at 09-2222 0168).

⁸⁵ Memorandum of Interview of Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office (May 27-28, 2009) (Exhibit 22 at 09-2222 0249-0254).

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her counsel on the Committee, Ms. Mobley, to “find a way” to allow Members of Congress to participate in the conference under the new travel rules passed by the House in 2007.⁸⁶ The staff member told the OCE that Congressman Rangel told him that the then-Chair had made similar statements to him.⁸⁷

90. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel’s Office said the “framework” that was decided upon was that the Carib News Foundation would raise money from corporate donors who had previously sponsored the conference and that this money in turn would be deposited in a “common fund” that would then be used to pay for the conference. It was Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel’s Office’s understanding that if this was done, then Members of Congress could participate in the conference without any restrictions imposed by the new rules. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel’s Office said that it was important to break the link between the corporations and the conference under the new rules and that using the Foundation in this way would enable that to happen. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel’s Office said he learned of this new framework for the conference from Mr. and Mrs. Rodney and that they represented this approach had come from Ms. Mobley on the Standards Committee.⁸⁸

91. This conduct in 2007 is relevant to the present reviews for a number of reasons. First, in and of itself, the intervention of the Chair’s counsel in this matter is troubling and more likely constituted an improper manipulation of the clearance process. Following Ms. Mobley’s intervention, Carib News Foundation changed the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form to delete any mention of private sponsors before it was sent to the Standards Committee’s staff attorney assigned to review the matter. This occurred after Carib News Foundation had told Ms. Mobley that these corporations were sponsors of the conference on several occasions. Ms. Louis’s initial, and presumably truthful, submissions regarding the conference described the corporate entities as sponsors. However, if the corporations were sponsors of the conference, as opposed to Carib News Foundation, then the Members of Congress ability to attend would have been limited because, the corporations, unlike the Carib News Foundation, employed or retained lobbyists. It appears from the correspondence between Ms. Mobley and Ms. Louis, and Ms. Olson’s apparent ignorance of the correspondence, that Ms. Mobley assisted Ms. Louis in preparing inaccurate answers for Ms. Olson in order to ensure that Ms. Olson would approve the trip in a manner that would not limit the attendance of the Members of Congress. Ms. Mobley’s involvement in the process seems to have prevented the

⁸⁶ *Id.* at 09-2222 0250.

⁸⁷ *Id.* at 09-2222 0251.

⁸⁸ *Id.*

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Standards Committee and its staff from correctly performing its responsibilities. Ms. Olson's approval of the trip was predicated on an incomplete or inaccurate factual record, in which Ms. Mobley apparently was complicit, putting at risk those Members of Congress who relied on that approval.

92. The 2007 conduct and attendant misrepresentations appear to have directly influenced what occurred in 2008. When the Carib News Foundation submitted materials to the Standards Committee for their approval of the 2008 conference, the Carib News Foundation took the same approach that they had been counseled to take in 2007 and did not disclose the role of the corporate sponsors on the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form or the conference agenda.

93. In fact, in 2008, Carib News Foundation again first submitted its document to Ms. Mobley.⁸⁹ The Board notes that while Ms. Mobley remains an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives as of the date of this report, the above described conduct did not occur after the day the House passed the resolution creating the OCE, and therefore, under the terms of the that resolution, the OCE does not have jurisdiction to open a preliminary review into Ms. Mobley's conduct.

⁸⁹ Fax from Patricia Louis to Dawn Kelly Mobley (Aug. 20, 2008) (Exhibit 23 at 09-2222 0112).

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 THE NEW YORK CARIBNEWS THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 28 FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018	
TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089 E-MAIL ADDRESS: <u>NYCARIB@AOL.COM</u> ; <u>CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET</u>	
FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET	
TO: Kelly Mobley	FROM: Patricia Louis
COMPANY: Committee on Standards of official conduct	DATE: 8/20/08
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: 2008 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> URGENT <input type="checkbox"/> FOR REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE REPLY <input type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION	
Following is the completed form and attachments re travel for Members of Congress to attend the 2008 Multinational Business Conference scheduled for November 6-9, 2008 in St. Maarten.	
Regards	

IV. The Value of the Trip Reported on the Member's Post-Travel Disclosure Form

94. Under House Rule 25 clause 5(d), Members are required to obtain prior approval of the Standards Committee for trips where the Member's travel expenses will be reimbursed by a private source. The Standards Committee has adopted regulations, including a pre- and post-travel form Members must complete, pursuant to House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B)⁹⁰ that requires Members to publicly disclose "trip expenses."
95. According to the House Ethics Manual, "[t]he rule and implementing regulations are concerned with the organization(s) or individual(s) that actually pay for travel." House Ethics Manual (2008) at 97.

⁹⁰ House Rule 25(5)(h)(i)(1)(B) directs the Standards Committee to establish, "regulations describing the information it will require individuals subject to this clause to submit to the committee in order to obtain the prior approval of the committee for any travel covered by this clause . . ." On February 20, 2007, the Committee issued guidelines and regulations concerning the travel restrictions and requirements.

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96. There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Thompson violated House Rule 25 clause 5(h)(i)(1)(B) by underreporting the value of the travel reimbursements he received to attend the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference.

A. Representations from Carib News Foundation

97. Carib News Foundation submitted a Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form to each Member it sponsored for the 2008 trip—Representatives Christensen, Kilpatrick, Payne, Rangel and Thompson.⁹¹ This form was provided to each Member Office and then submitted by the Member Office to the Standards Committee as part of the pre-travel approval process.

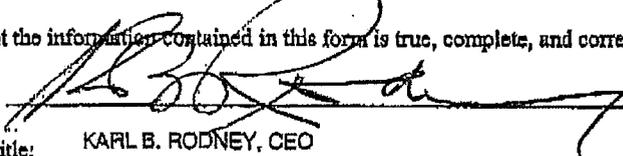
21. **TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:**

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	410	280	145
For each accompanying family member	410	0	145

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$150 \$ 25	Conference Registration Local transportation
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

⁹¹ Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form signed by Karl Rodney (Oct. 3, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2222 0010).

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98. The Board notes that the Carib News Foundation provided the same exact dollar figure with very minor variations for each Member of Congress that attended the conference despite the fact that Carib News Foundation recognized on the same form that the Congressional travelers were travelling to and from different cities. In fact, the Congressional travelers came from St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands; Detroit, Michigan; Newark, New Jersey; New York, New York; and Jackson, Mississippi.

99. In addition, according to Mr. Rodney, the cost charged to "the public" to attend the conference for four days and three nights was \$840 for double occupancy or \$1085 for single occupancy. The cost of attendance included "room accommodations, meals, and admission to the Conference." However, these figures were not disclosed pre-travel to the Members or the Standards Committee, nor were these figures disclosed to the Members after the conference.⁹²

B. Information Required from the Congressional Traveler

100. On his Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form,⁹³ Representative Thompson certified his travel cost as the following:

⁹² Letter from Joel Cohen, Counsel for Karl Rodney (May 18, 2009) (Exhibit 6 at 09-2222 0070).

⁹³ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Representative Bennie G. Thompson (Dec. 5, 2008) (Exhibit 1 at 09-2222 0003).

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9. **TRIP EXPENSES:** *Obtain actual dollar amounts from the sponsor. If exact dollar amounts are unavailable by the due date, provide a good faith estimate and file an amended form once the correct amounts are received.*

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses
For Member or Officer:	410.00	405.00	part of general program
For accompanying family member:	410.00	n/a	part of general program

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Specific Nature of Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For Member or Officer:	175.00	Registration Fees and Ground Transportation
For accompanying family member:	n/a	n/a

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER: *Benjamin J. Thompson*

DATE: November 26, 2008

101. However, documents from Congressman Thompson's office show his airline ticket cost \$750.15, not \$410.⁹⁴

----- Original message from "Jimerson, Jennifer"
<jjimerson@mail.house.gov>: -----

Patricia,

Considering that the other options have several layovers the Congressman's preference would be the first itinerary with US Airways for \$750.15. Congressman Thompson seating preferences is exit row aisle only and please seat him and Dr. Thompson together. Contact me if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Jennifer

102. In an interview with OCE, Congressman Thompson stated that he had been shown a list of flights and that he had chosen which flight he would take.⁹⁵

⁹⁴ E-mail from Jennifer Jimerson to Patricia Louis (Oct. 27, 2008, 8:27 PM EST) (Exhibit 24 at 09-2222 0289).

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V. Carib News Foundation, as a Private Foundation, Was Prohibited From Paying for Congressman Thompson's Travel

103. The Carib News Foundation is identified as the "sponsor" of this conference on at least three forms filed with the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct: (1) the "Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form"; (2) the "Privately Sponsored Travel: Travel Form," and (3) the "Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form."⁹⁶
104. According to a query of the New York State's Office of the Secretary of State, Mr. Rodney appears to operate two organizations – the "Carib News, Inc" which operates a newspaper and the "Carib News Charities, Inc" which also may operate under the name "Carib News Foundation." The OCE has not been able to identify any additional activity, other than the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, in which the latter organization is involved. Furthermore, while "Carib News Charities, Inc" / "Carib News Foundation" is listed with New York's Office of the Secretary of State as a domestic not-for-profit corporation, it is not listed, as required by law, with the New York State Charities Bureau. In addition, there is no evidence that the organization has filed a tax return with the IRS, under either name, since 2005.⁹⁷ According to Publication 78 of the IRS, a list of all charities claiming 501(c) status, Carib Charities, Inc is a private foundation.⁹⁸
105. Every organization that qualifies for tax exemption described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code is defined as a private foundation unless the organization falls into one of the categories specifically excluded from the definition under section 509(a).⁹⁹ In effect, the definition divides 501(c)(3) organizations into two classes: private foundations and public charities. Private foundations are generally funded through a single donor, family or corporation and operate through investment income; whereas, public charities are typically funded and operated through diversified support from governmental sources and the general public.
106. There are several restrictions that are placed on private foundations. At issue here is the restriction on "self-dealing" between a disqualified person (the definition of which

⁹⁶ Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form signed by Representative Bennie G. Thompson (Dec. 5, 2008) (Exhibit at 09-2222 0002).

⁹⁷ Letter from IRS to OCE (Apr. 17, 2009) (Exhibit 8 at 09-2222 0095-0108).

⁹⁸ Online Version of Publication 78 (Accessed online on June 5, 2009 at <http://www.irs.gov/app/pub-78/>) (Exhibit 8 at 09-2222 0108.1-0108.2).

⁹⁹ 26 U.S.C. §§ 501 and 509.

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended:

includes Members of Congress) and a private foundation.¹⁰⁰ The Code defines the act of “self-dealing” to include any direct or indirect agreement to make any payment of money (including reimbursement of expenses) or other property by a private foundation to a government official.¹⁰¹ Although framed as a tax provision, the statute essentially bars certain federal employees and federally elected officials from receiving compensation, including reimbursements for international travel, from a private foundation.¹⁰²

107. As such, it appears that the Carib News Foundation’s payment of travel expenses for Representative Kilpatrick and her acceptance of payment potentially violated the Internal Revenue Code.

108. The Board infers from the fact that the Standards Committee approved the reimbursement that the Standards Committee is unaware of this restriction. The Board notes, however, that its own research revealed that numerous other ethics-related entities in the federal government are aware of this restriction, and have for some time been enforcing it.¹⁰³

109. Congressman Thompson told the OCE that he was unaware of any limitations on the ability of private foundations to pay for overseas travel by government officials.¹⁰⁴

110. The Board notes that these facts show failures at multiple points by multiple parties in complying with and enforcing the travel rules. Inaccurate information was provided by the Carib News Foundation to Members and the Standards Committee. Congressman Thompson certified inaccurate information to the Standards Committee. The counsel to the former Chair of the Standards Committee intervened in the review process in a way that both frustrated the process in 2007 and set a pattern of obfuscation that continued in 2008. Finally, the Standards Committee appears unaware of limitations on the ability of private foundations to pay for overseas travel by Members.

111. For all these reasons, the Board concludes further review of this matter by the Standards Committee is appropriate.

¹⁰⁰ 26 U.S.C. §§ 4941 and 4946.

¹⁰¹ 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(1)(F). The Code imposes a tax (currently 10 percent of the amount involved) on the illegal payments, with later penalties (up to \$20,000 per act of self-dealing) for failure to pay back the foundation. The tax is imposed on the disqualified person, including a government official if the official participates in the act of self-dealing knowingly.

¹⁰² The payment or reimbursement of travel expenses for travel solely from one point in the United States to another point in the United States is excepted from the definition of self-dealing provided that the payment or reimbursement does not exceed the actual cost of the transportation involved and provided the amount for all other traveling expenses does not exceed 125 percent of the maximum amount payable under section 5702 of title 5, United States Code, for like travel by employees of the United States. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(2)(G)(vii).

¹⁰³ Memorandum from Ethics Counsel at the National Institutes of Health to Deputy Ethics Counsels at NIH (Jun. 2, 2000) (Exhibit 25 at 09-2222 0293).

¹⁰⁴ Memorandum of Interview of Representative Bennie Thompson (May 6, 2009) (Exhibit 2 at 09-2222 0024.3).

EXHIBIT 1

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
3000 REC-5 PVI 4:02
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Original Amendment

**U.S. House of Representatives
110th Congress
MEMBER / OFFICER
POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM**

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties. You need not disclose government-funded or political travel on this form, or travel that is unrelated to official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report all privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual Financial Disclosure Statement. In accordance with clause 5 of House Rule 25, complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, B-106 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed. The Clerk is to make these forms available to the public as soon as possible after they are received.

1. Name of Traveler: Congressman Bennie G. Thompson

2. a. Name of Accompanying Family Member (if any): Dr. London Thompson
b. Relationship to Member/Officer: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____

3. a. Date of Departure and Date of Return: November 6, 2008 to November 9, 2008
b. Dates at personal expense (if any): NONE

4. Itinerary (cities of departure -- destination -- return): Jackson, MS to St. Maarten, N.A. to Jackson, MS

5. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): Carib News Foundation

6. Describe meetings and events attended (attach additional pages if necessary): Attended Meetings to give a perspective on Committee Chairmanship and Legislation

7. Attached to this form are EACH of the following (signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box):
 - a. the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form completed by trip sponsor, including all attachments;
 - b. the Traveler Form completed by the Member or officer; *and*
 - c. the Committee on Standards' letter approving my participation on this trip.

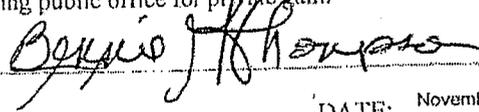
8. a. I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the sponsor's agenda. (Signify that statement is true by checking box):
b. If not, explain: _____

9. **TRIP EXPENSES:** Obtain actual dollar amounts from the sponsor. If exact dollar amounts are unavailable by the due date, provide a good faith estimate and file an amended form once the correct amounts are received.

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses
For Member or Officer:	410.00	405.00	part of general program
For accompanying family member:	410.00	n/a	part of general program

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Specific Nature of Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For Member or Officer:	175.00	Registration Fees and Ground Transportation
For accompanying family member:	n/a	n/a

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER: 

DATE: November 26, 2008

Version date 9/2008 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Washington, DC 20515

October 20, 2008

The Honorable Bennie G. Thompson
U.S. House of Representatives
2432 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct hereby approves your proposed trip for you and your spouse to St. Maarten, N.A. scheduled for November 6 to 9, 2008 sponsored by the Carib News Foundation.

You must complete a Member Travel Disclosure Form and file it with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are required to attach a copy of this letter and the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form, including attachments. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$335 from a single source on Schedule VII of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement.

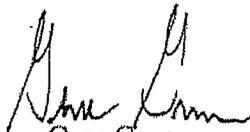
Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act, gifts "of minimal value [currently \$335] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of \$335 received by you or your spouse from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

However, we would note that since this trip is scheduled to commence after the general election on November 4, 2008 and because officially-connected travel must be related to official duties, it may be questionable whether a Member who was not reelected in the general election should to accept an invitation for a trip that is fact-finding in nature. Arguably, as of that time, the official responsibilities that may justify the acceptance of travel expenses for such a purpose will have come to an end. This consideration generally will not limit the Committee's authority to approve travel of a departing Member to participate substantially in an officially-related event (for example, to give a speech). Please keep this guidance in mind, as you may need to reevaluate your ability to participate in the trip following the election.

The Honorable Bennie G. Thompson
October 20, 2008
Page 2

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,



Gene Green
Acting Chairman



Doc Hastings
Ranking Republican Member

GG/DH:pgp

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL: TRAVELER FORM
For Members, Officers, and Employees

This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection. *Please type form. Form (and any attachments) may be faxed to the Committee at (202) 225-7392.*

YOUR COMPLETED REQUEST MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE COMMITTEE NO LESS THAN 14 DAYS BEFORE YOUR PROPOSED DEPARTURE DATE. Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 14 days before the trip commences.

Name of Traveler: Congressman Bennie G. Thompson

I certify that the information contained on both pages of this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: *Jennifer Jimerson*

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): Jennifer Jimerson

For staff, name of employing Member/Committee: _____

Office address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address of contact person: _____

Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet and the traveler is a Member traveling to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity and these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 14 days before the trip departure date.

NOTE: You must complete the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. House of Representatives
HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-7103 (phone)
(202) 225-7392 (fax)

Version date 9/2008 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL: TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Congressman Bennie G. Thompson
2. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): Carib News Foundation
3. Travel destination(s): St. Maarten, N.A.
4. a. Date of Departure and Date of Return: 11/06/08 and 11/09/08
b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense? Yes No
If yes, dates at personal expense: _____
5. a. Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? Yes No
b. If yes, name of accompanying family member: Dr. London Thompson
c. Relationship to traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
6. a. Did the trip sponsor answer "yes" to Question 9(c) on the Trip Sponsor form (i.e., the travel is being sponsored by an entity that employs a lobbyist)? Yes No
b. If yes, check one of the following: N/A - Sponsor checked 9(a) or 9(b)
(1) Approval for one-night's lodging and meals is being requested: or
(2) Approval for two-nights' lodging and meals is being requested:
If "(2)" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____
7. Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments (indicate that form is attached by checking box):
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to your individual official or representational duties:
To give his perspective on committee chairmanship and legislation.
9. **FOR STAFF:**
TO BE COMPLETED BY YOUR EMPLOYING MEMBER:

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Date: 10/16/08

Signature of Employing Member

NOTE: This page must be submitted with your post-travel disclosure form within 15 days of your return, so you should maintain a photocopy of the completed form for your records.

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): BASED ON COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE WHICH IMPACTS US/CARIBBEAN RELATIONS ON WHICH THE MEMBER SERVES,
6. Dates of travel: NOVEMBER 8-9, 2008
7. Cities of departure - destination - return: VARIES - DEPENDING ON MEMBER
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
 - a. One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered:If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: _____
 CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (* SEE ATTACHED)
13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: _____
 THE INTEREST OF CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION IS TO PROMOTE, INFORM, TRADE AND
 ESTABLISHMENT OF MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE U.S AND THE CARIBBEAN
14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted: _____
 REGULAR SCHEDULED AIR SERVICE, ECONOMY CLASS
15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):
16. I represent that either (check one of the following):
 a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: *or*
 b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:
 If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____
17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: SEE ATTACHED
18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: SONESTA MAHO BEACH RESORT
19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$110.00
20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: HAS APPROPRIATE MEETING ROOMS

21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	410	260	145
For each accompanying family member	410	0	145

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (a.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$150 \$ 25	Conference Registration Local transportation
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

Address: 7 WEST 36th STREET, 8th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

Telephone number: (212) 944-1991

Fax number: (212) 944-2089

Email Address: CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. House of Representatives
HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-7103 (phone)
(202) 225-7392 (general fax)
(202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INVITED TO THE
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS
CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 6-9, 2008, ST. MAARTEN, N.A.

Congresswoman Diane E. Watson
Congressman David Scott
Congressman James Clyburn
Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez
Congressman Charles Rangel
Congressman Donald Payne
Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
Congressman Edolphus Towns
Congressman G. K. Butterfield
Congressman Gregory Meeks
Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.
Congressman Keith Ellison
Congressman Kendrick Meek
Congresswoman Maxine Waters
Congressman Melvin Watt
Congressman Robert Scott
Congressman William Lacy Clay
Congresswoman Barbara Lee
Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
Congresswoman Corrine Brown
Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
Congressman Danny Davis
Congressman Bennie Thompson
Congresswoman Laura Richardson

July 2008



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1999; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Item #17

A Caribbean country whose proximity to other Caribbean Countries makes it conveniently located for delegates from the other Caribbean countries to attend.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

Working Copy

13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
St. Maarten, N.A.

THEME: **A REGION IN TRANSITION – STRATEGY FOR
CHANGE – BUILDING ALLIANCES**

Thursday, November 6, 2008

12:00 noon – 6:00pm : **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -**

5:00 – 6:30 - **TOWN HALL FORUM - HEALTH**

Healthy Eating and Living

Innovative Solutions for Life styles

Diseases- a Collaborative Approach – Diabetes,

Hypertension, Obesity, Oral Health

Venue - **ROYAL ISLANDER**

Moderator - **Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith**

Speakers - **Mrs. Karen Boykin-Towns**

Congressmember Dr. Donna Christian Christensen

Commissioner Maria Buncamper Molanus, Health

Commissioner, St. Maarten

Dr. Leon Merrick

Dr. Jay Cohan

Dr. John Palmer

6:30- 7:30pm - **OPENING RECEPTION**

Venue: - **UPPER POOL**

Theme: - *A REGION IN TRANSITION* -
Speakers: - Faye A. Rodney
Hon. Roy Marlin – Commissioner for Tourism & Finance – St
Maarten.

MC: - Sabrina Hosang - Royal Caribbean Bakery

7:30 – 9:30 pm - OPENING DINNER

Venue: - MAHO ROOM

Theme: - *STRATEGY FOR CHANGE*

MC - Judge Sylvia Hinds-Radix

Speakers : - Susan Taylor
Hon. Donald Payne, Member US Congress

10:00pm – 1:00am: - HOSPITALITY AREA

Friday, November 7, 2008

8:00am – 8:45am - (BREAKFAST) – OCEAN TERRACE

9:00am – 6:00pm	<i>CONFERENCE REGISTRATION</i> <i>OCEAN TERRACE LOBBY</i>
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CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

SABA ROOM

9:00am – 10:15am - **OPENING CEREMONIES**

Venue: - **MAHO ROOM**

Theme: - **BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR PROGRESS**

Invocation: - **Rev. Susan Johnson=Cook**

Anthems: - **St. Maarten**
Lift Every Voice

Remarks: - **Eric Eve**
Karen Boykin-Towns
Marie Long
Ed Goldberg
Patrick Gaston
Hazel Dukes

Speakers: - **Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick – Member**
US Congress
Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader
of Government, St.Maarten
Harry Belafonte

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONIES

10:15am – 10:30am - **COFFEE BREAK -**

10:30am -11:45am - . PRESENTATION

EDUCATION – TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES - COLLABORATION

Moderator - Dr. Emmanuel Gonsalves
Greetings - Marie Long
Speakers - Dr. Edison Jackson
Patrick Gaston
Dr. Marcia Keizs
Congressmember Eddie Bernice Johnson
Professor Rex Nettleford

12.00 noon – 1:15p.m. PRESENTATION

TRAVEL AND TOURISM -

A Transformative Approach

Moderator - Lloyd Williams
Greetings - Wallace Ford
Speakers - Commissioner Roy Marlin
Howard Dodson
Congressman Gregory Meeks
Professor Rex Nettleford
Dr. Martin Valdes

12:00 noon – 1:15p.m - PRESENTATION

HEALTH – AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

STRATEGY FOR THE REGION

- Greetings - Karen Boykin-Towns
- Moderator - Yvonne Graham
- Speakers - Dr. Denzil Douglas
 Dr. Carl Kenel Pierre
 Commissioner Maria Buncamper Molanus, Health
 Commissioner, St. Maarten
 - Dr. Dexter McKenzie
- 1:30pm - 2:30pm - LUNCHEON
- Venue: - Main Ballroom
- Theme: - *BUILDING A WINNING STRATEGY - PARTNERSHIPS
 THAT WORK*
- Moderator: - Hon. Nick Perry, NYS Assembly
- Speakers Eric Eve
- Keynote Speaker - Hon. David Paterson, Governor New York State
- 3:00pm - 4:00pm
- Round Table # 1 -
- Theme - *EDUCATION - THINKFINITY PRESENTATION &
 DEMONSTRATION*
- Venue - Royal Islander A
- MC - Dr. Patricia Hazlewood
- Speakers - Patrick Gaston
 Albert Browne

Round Table #2 -

Theme - *LOCAL BUSINESS INITIATIVES*
Opportunities with US Companies

Venue - Royal Islander B

Speakers : - Ed Goldberg
Eric Eve
Albert Browne

4:30pm - 6:00pm - *TOWN HALL FORUM - EDUCATION*

Venue - Royal Islander A

Theme : *EDUCATION - SHARING WORKING SOLUTIONS*

Greetings : Michael Flanigan

Moderator : Dr. Marcella Maxwell

Speakers: - Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor, NYC
Dr. Edison O. Jackson
Dr. Marcia Keizs
Professor Rex Nettleford, UWI
William Payne, Assemblyman New Jersey

Venue:

6.30:00pm - 7:30pm - *HOST COUNTRY EVENING*

Venue: -

Theme -

MC: -

Speakers:

CULTURAL PRESENTATION

7:30 – 8:00 pm:

8:00pm – 10:30.p.m.

Venue :

Theme

10:00pm – 1:00am

- *HOSPITALITY AREA*

Venue:

Saturday, November 8, 2008

7:45 am – 8:15 am

= BREAKFAST

Venue

- *OCEAN TERRACE*

8:30am – 10:00am

- *PRESENTATION*

Theme

WOMEN OF INFLUENCE AND POWER

Venue:

- *MAHO BEACH*

Greetings & Opening
Remarks -

- Brenda Scott

Moderator

- Marilyn Johnson

Speakers:

- Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader
of Government Business

Dame Billie Miller, former Deputy Prime Minister,

of Barbados

Dr. Marcia Keizs, President York College

Michelle Paterson, First Lady New York State

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson

Rev. Dr. Susan Johnson-Cook

- 10.15am – 11:45am - *PRESENTATION*
- Theme - *THE CARIBBEAN, IT'S VALUE & POTENTIAL*
- Venue - Royal Islander A
- Greetings - Wallace Ford
- Moderator - Dame Billie Miller
- Speakers - Hon. P. J. Patterson, former Prime Minister, Jamaica
Hon. Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister St. Vincent
and the Grenadines
- Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister,
St. Kitts-Nevis
Congressman Charles Rangel

12:00 noon – 1:30 p.m. *PRIVATE MEETING – CLOSED DOOR SESSION*
with Members of Congress and Ministers of Government

- 12:00 noon – 1:15p.m. *PRESENTATION*
- Theme - *TRADE & INVESTMENT – CREATIVE SOLUTIONS*
RETOOLING FOR GROWTH – PARTNERSHIP AT WORK
- Venue - Royal Islander A
- Greetings - Michael Flanigan
- Moderator - Ivanhoe Ffriend

Speakers - Adolfo Carrion, Borough President, Bronx, New York
 Compton Bourne, President Caribbean Development Bank

- Congressman Edolphus Towns

- Eric Eve

12:00 noon – 1:15pm - *PRESENTATION*

Theme *Hemispheric Security – Ports/Airports – Crime – Drugs – Disaster*

Venue - Royal Islander B

Greetings - Earl Brown, Deputy Borough President, Bronx
 Judge Sylvia Ash

Moderator - Tony Best

Speakers - Congressman Bennie Thompson
 Commissioner Theo Heyliger, St. Maarten
 Professor Ivelaw Griffith
 Hon. Lance Ogiste, Brooklyn District Attorney

1:30pm – 2:30 pm LUNCHEON

Venue - MAHO ROOM

Theme: *CARIBBEAN – A SOLID INVESTMENT*

Greetings - Hon. Darryl Towns

Speakers - Hon. William Thompson, NYC Comptroller
 Dr. Compton Bourne, President CDB

Round Table #1 - *IMMIGRATION/DEPORTEES*

Venue - Royal Islander A

Moderator - Dr. Marco Mason
Speakers
Congressman Bennie Thompson
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson, Member US Congress
Attorney Stanford Rubenstein
NYC Councilmember Dr. Kendall Stewart

Round Table#2: - HAITI – BOLD INITIATIVES – THE DIASPORA-
CBC AND CARICOM

Venue - Royal Islander B
Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham

Speakers - Hon. Charles Rangel
Hon. Gregory Meeks
Hon. Ralph Gonsalves
Dr. Lesly Kernisant

4:30 pm – 6:00pm - TOWN HALL FORUM - TECHNOLOGY

Venue: Royal Islander A

Greetings & Opening - Marie Long

Moderator - Colin Ward

Speakers - Congressman Edolphus Towns
Albert Brown
Commissioner of Technology

6:30 – 7.30pm - GALA RECEPTION

Speakers - Susan Taylor

7:30pm - 10:00pm - *GALA DINNER & AWARDS PRESENTATION*

Speaker - Dr. Harry Belafonte

Hon. Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Government
Business

AWARDS PRESENTATION

ENTERTAINMENT

10:30pm - 1:00am - *HOSPITALITY AREA*

Venue: HOTEL CONFERENCE ROOM

Sunday, November 9, 2008

8:30 am - 10:00am - *POWER BREAKFAST*

Theme: - *SPIRITUALITY - THE BASICS IN BUSINESS*

Greetings - *Lowell Hawthorne*

Speakers - Ed Goldberg

Selection: - Local Choir

EXHIBIT 2

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative Thompson
Review #: 09-2222; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333
Date: May 6, 2009
Location: 2432 Rayburn HOB, Washington, D.C.
Participants: Leo Wise
Beth Horton

Summary: Representative Thompson attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference. We requested an interview with Representative Thompson and he consented. Representative Thompson was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and he signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. Representative Thompson made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. He attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008.
2. He stayed at the conference for 3 days.
3. He recalled that he stayed in a standard room and that meals were provided at the conference.
4. He was invited by the Rodneys.
5. He stated that the Rodneys were newspaper people from NY. He knew of them through an affiliation with the Carib News community. The newspaper provides information about the Caribbean to people in NY.

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6. The Caribbean relates to his duties because there are significant issues regarding homeland security, human trafficking and drug issues.
7. Carib News paid for his travel (whoever is listed on the form).
8. He made the decision to attend the conference.
9. He has never been to any fundraiser for the Foundation.
10. Jennifer, his scheduler, handled his travel.
11. Once he decides that he is interested in a trip, Jennifer handles all the arrangements and works with the entity to work out the travel plans.
12. He chooses flights based on what is going on in Congress.
13. Jennifer generally provides him with a printout of available flights and he then chooses what will work with his schedule.
14. He departed from Jackson, MS and arrived at the beginning of the conference on the 6th of Nov.
15. He does not recall the dinner but he would have attended the activities at the conference.
16. He recalled that Rep. Payne attended the conference and he noted that if he was there, he would have spoken at the conference at some point, but he did not recall his speech. He stated that the time he spoke would be reflected on the program.
17. He did not recall the first session of the conference but he would have attended.
18. He recalled that Representative Kilpatrick spoke at the conference but he did not know when nor did he recall what she said.
19. He did not recall the ribbon cutting and did not see himself in the picture of the ribbon cutting.
20. He attended a workshop regarding doing business in the U.S.
21. He also participated in a second session that dealt with homeland security issues.
22. Generally, other government officials were at the session.
23. He did not see a letter regarding the session.

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24. The signature on the post travel document is his.
25. Members of his staff can also sign documents for him.
26. The travel form was put together between Marsha and Jennifer.
27. The entity that sponsors the travel would provide the breakdown of expenses. He assumed that is what happened in this instance.
28. He believed the information on the form to be accurate. He had no reason to disagree with the figures provided by the sponsor. Beyond meals, travel, and lodging there were no other expenses.
29. He did not see any bill that would dispute the sponsor's charges.
30. He did not recall any sponsors, he remembered seeing people from companies but didn't recognize them as sponsors.
31. He did not recall Rep. Payne thanking any companies as sponsors.
32. He did not recall Rep. Kilpatrick thanking sponsors.
33. He had no personal knowledge of any of the representatives, the '08 conference was one of the few conferences that he has attended where he didn't know anyone prior to the conference.
34. He stated that the Foundation paid for his travel.
35. He was not aware if the government of St. Maarten paid for any expenses.
36. He was not aware of any limitations on private foundation's ability to pay for travel expenses.
37. His practice is to submit a travel request to the Standards Committee and if the request is approved then he would not assume there were any other issues.
38. He has not had any contact with the Standards Committee regarding any travel issues.
39. His understanding of Carib News is that it has a business interest in the Caribbean.
40. He is not aware if the Carib News gave money to support the conference.
41. He has not spoken with anyone about the conference.

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42. He is not aware of who the host of conference was, he did not see anything pertaining to the host.
43. He was sure that someone from the government of St. Maarten was present but does not know any names.
44. He was not aware that the government played a role at the conference.
45. There were various government officials from the islands at the conference.
46. He is generally familiar with the House travel rules.
47. He does not recall any specific briefing on travel. He relies on his request to the Standards Committee. If the Standards Committee raised any issue with regard to travel, he would not take the trip. He makes the decision to travel after receiving a letter from Standards.
48. He may have attended the '07 conference, he could not recall for sure.
49. He did not recall any ethics related issue regarding the '07 conference.

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

Exhibit 3

TRANSCRIPT OF AUDIO FILE:

11-7 AM SESSION - FIRST 30 MIN

Thank you for working with Accentance for your transcription needs. The text below represents a professional transcriptionist's understanding of the words spoken. No guarantee of complete accuracy is expressed or implied, particularly regarding spellings of names and other unfamiliar or hard-to-hear words and phrases. "(ph)" or "(sp?)" indicate phonetics or best guesses. To verify important quotes, we recommend listening to the corresponding audio. Timestamps throughout the transcript facilitate locating the desired quote, using software such as Windows Media or QuickTime players.

BEGIN TRANSCRIPT:

KARL RODNEY: ...Mike Flanigan how through the year his division has been supportive of the Mission and the Conference. And so we want to say thanks to Citi. You'll be hearing from Mike later but it's a great team to have working and great partners. We have Pfizer and a big supporter of (inaudible) aspect. Karen Boykin-Towns is not here, she has been able to in the past eight years and there's a death in her family and so she's not here to begin. Through the years work had done in the Caribbean circle in the United States and then a special touch to our work that can be done not only on the delivery of health care but overall awareness. [0:01:00.4]

And over from Macy's and its very fine team has been innovative in outreach to various locations we've gone to, finding new vendors, developing new contacts and really helping to make the conference a success by engagement of our local participants. So Ed and Brenda are tremendous supporters and we're so delighted that they're here with us.

IBM and Marilyn Johnson, Marilyn is Vice-President of Market Development, responsible for strategic marketing for Black, Asian and Hispanic, Native American and Women. Marilyn's a dynamic partner and you'll be hearing from Marilyn also. You should be alerted that between Brenda and Marilyn tomorrow is Women's sessions is going to be something to talk about. [0:02:09.5]

Marie Long is here from ATT but ATT has supported the Conference all 13 years. We started with them. They made sure that the Vision, the Mission of the Conference is supported through the many years.

We have with us Mr. Pat Gaston. Mr. Gaston is the President of Verizon Foundation, one of the largest private foundations in the United States. And Mr. Gaston has made his mark in moving that foundation to be a force in education in the United States. We are delighted he is here to be with us and to introduce a wonderful program that has been very effective in the United States (inaudible) to see if there is potential here in the Caribbean. So, Patrick, we are delighted you are here and we look forward to your presentation. [0:03:14.9]

Preferred Health and a wonderful group of doctors, Dr. Valdez, Dr. Carl Kenel-Pierre, Dr. Kernisant, a group of doctors who have a network of centers through the United States but they also see and want to have that expanded to the Caribbean and also to bring a new kind of emphasis with respect to health tourism to the Caribbean and so they're here today also.

Dale Morris from American. American has been a partner with us for several years. Dale is expected to come in later on today but we want to acknowledge American and want to say "thanks".

Lloyd Williams from the Harlem Chamber of Commerce enough of his members are around and Lloyd has been supportive of this Conference from its inception and the Chamber has always been here with us and so we want to say "thanks" to Lloyd. [0:04:20.9]

Medgar Evers College under the dynamic leadership of President Edison O. Jackson has not only brought to the Caribbean a new vision of education, a new initiative with respect to men and empowerment but also the team that you see moving around they're from Medgar through the instrumentality of President Jackson working with us to document the Conference. It will be available too for a widespread distribution afterwards. So Medgar has been a true partner in making this Conference and this Mission work. [0:05:07.0]

Turner Construction, we have had a working relationship with Rev. Hilton Smith, he has attended several conferences and now he's with his colleague John Pierce to be a partner in the Mission of the Conference.

And, of course, the government of St. Maarten's under the dynamic leadership of leader Sarah Westcott-Williams and her dynamic team. We have always been working with - we always work with the leader and her dynamic group and we are just delighted at her own creative vision, her own determination and dynamic way of dealing with the Mission and dealing with the situation at hand. And we met with Commissioner Westcott-Williams and her team and she had a vision to suggest the theme of the Conference, time of transition, stretching for change and building the land session. So it was with that kind of background that we're here and to St. Maarten's we say, "Thank you very, very much." [0:06:31.4]

We have so many great partners that we shall hear from throughout the morning. We have through the Conventional Black Caucus and their members a set of agendas that have been accomplished, policies that have been achieved and programs that have been enhanced. And through the years they have been very effective when they have attended the Conferences our own (inaudible).

It was here at St. Maarten's six years ago that a group of hoteliers and vendors approached the members of our caucus to suggest that the Caribbean had been treated unfairly with respect to the duty-free allowance going into the United States. And it was within six months that it was changed through the effort of the members of the Black Caucus and so the Caribbean is better. And the Caribbean has benefited through millions of dollars of duty-free items that you know come through to the Caribbean.

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It was also here in St. Maarten's that the issue of tax exemption for conferences held in the Caribbean was again brought to the attention of the members of the Congressional Black Caucus and again that was achieved within a year. [0:08:08.2]

And so we've seen that kind of work constantly throw it's really the conference. So we can try to serve real achievement in fact in this room there is a couple that came from Denver to Barbados for their first Conference and they have built a region wide distribution for ice cream and fast food. And this has grown considerably.

It was also through the Conference that a small technology company with the value of \$2 million came, got a contract and that company in two years became a \$12 million company. And we've seen that kind of connection throughout the Conference. We could point to Barbados where technology was enhanced with respect to ATT work with the local Barbadian telecommunication company. St. Croix the fiber optics center, Grenada an oil refinery, all coming up with the expertise of the Conference to the (inaudible). [0:09:30.7]

And so the Mission is there to continue, the Mission is there to enhance, the Mission is there for us to make it work particularly now when we see the change has come and we can now come together to pad the agenda and to look forward to this kind of strategy for change. And so we want to welcome you. We promise that our sessions are going to be interesting. We have some of the best speakers that you can find on the various topics. We're going to see more when we get together the support we can bring to each other. The support we can provide with respect to the met work and certainly when we go back in the Caribbean we can really see results. We can come together as a people. You've been a great Conference. Thanks so much for being here. God bless. [0:10:28.4]

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you Mr. Rodney and we also thank you Mrs. Rodney as well. With interest we're here on the wave of the man who campaigned about change and on this transition to change and also strategic alliances. And we hope that will happen for you while you're here. Mr. Vide mentioned all of the sponsors who were with us and the partners who helped to make this happen and we're going to hear from three of them at this time at this quarter, Michael Flanigan from Citibank (Citi) and Ed Goldberg, Senior Vice-President at Macy's and Community for the Relations, and Patrick Gaston the President of the Verizon Foundation. In that order we will receive them this morning as they come, please. (clapping) [0:11:15.6]

MICHAEL FLANIGAN: Good morning.

ALL: Good morning.

MICHAEL FLANIGAN: It's really a pleasure to be here. As you heard before, Eric is on his way so I have the great privilege and honor of putting in for Eric. But first just wanted to say "thank you" and again welcome to the 13th Annual Caribbean Business Conference. This year was significant for Citi. For the first time we are the lead sponsor of this premier event. But I would be remiss in not thanking the organizers and our hosts here at St. Maarten so to the

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government, to the Commissioner Sarah Westcott-Williams, Governor Franklin Richards and Commissioner Roy Marlin and all the other elected officials here in St. Maarten and elected Congress members, appointed officials from the United States it's a pleasure to be here with you. [0:12:15.6]

We also of course have to thank the Rodney's as being 13 years in ensuring that this vision is carried out and delivered all across the Caribbean and I don't call to talk about some successes but I think one of the most important success that I think that I've experienced in coming to the Conference for the last six or seven years is just reunited with his great family. It's all about developing our communities. About we're all about the same thing, I think. We're all on the same page. We're all about the same agenda. And we're all about making sure that we absolutely care about each other, yourself but we care about the broader community. So it's always a pleasure to be here. I get re-energized every time I come. And so it's - I look forward to it - so it's one conference that I will never miss.

This Conference is an important gallery that makes a tangible contribution to dialog on the issues of important to communities. From recognizing the untapped wealth for underserved communities to building property alliances so that together we can build healthy, robust, organic economies. Today and tomorrow and even into Sunday are very important to that conversation at least to building a winning strategy to succeed in these turbulent economic times. I trust that we will all take full advantage of the great minds and the leaders that we are privileged to spend time with. I know my Citi bank black (inaudible) are ready. Thank you so much for having us here at Conference. (clapping) [0:13:58.2]

ED GOLDBERG: Good morning everyone.

ALL: Good morning.

ED GOLDBERG: As Mike said it's really a pleasure to be back with family today. We look forward to this Conference very year. Obviously, we hope that there will be many, many more over the years to come. I learned something from David Dinkins several years ago when you have a whole list of dignitaries in the house, the best thing to say is, "Present, protocol observed." So, Mr. Mayor, thank you for those kind words. (laughter)

Now a week and a half ago, Macy's celebrated its 150th anniversary. (clapping) When you think about anniversaries of companies today to believe that somebody could be around in the retail industry in particular for 150 years is quite an amazing feat. I'm sure that when R. H. Macy opened his store in lower Manhattan on 14th Street on October 28, 1858, he did not have the vision that the company some day; number one would last for 150 years; or that it would employ 225,000 people; or that they would do \$27 billion a year in business; or for being in 46 of our 50 states; and also the opportunity of having a business in 64 or 65 major markets in the United States. [0:15:30.9]

But today I'm hear to talk more about the Caribbean contract. The fact that we have been supportive of Carolyn Fay and this particular venture for the number of years but more importantly the fact that we come here to look for that spark that will ignite an opportunity to

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find that next Martha Stewart; that next design; or that new product that's going to sell in our stores such as we've done with the Rwandan peace baskets and products like that. And I think it is really why our Mission is so important, it's not just a question of change, not just a question of transition but it's building those ties and looking for those opportunities. That I think will bring us closer together. [0:16:15.9]

There's no question that we all face difficult times but I believe that the Caribbean is our backdoor and the bottom line in opening for us for expansion. No, I don't think we can build 250,000 sq. ft. mall stores but Macy's has to learn in transition how do we conduct business in the Caribbean communities. And I think we're going to find that way and obviously this particular convention is one of those opportunities to do so.

You all know Brenda Scott, my wife, (laughter), Judy's back in the room sleeping so I can say that. But Brenda and I have been together for more than 20 years. We have obviously been very much involved in our communities where we do business and we still believe we have a long way to go. But our mission is being supported by a great Chairman, Terry Lundgren, and the people of Macy's, so obviously we look forward to developing these bridges and developing the relationships. And I hope that in the not too distant future, we will be talking about a Macy's store here in the Caribbean. So enjoy your convention. I hope I'll get a chance to talk to each and every one of you as the time goes by over the next couple of days. And again, thank you so much, Carolyn Fay for the great work that you do. (clapping) [0:17:32.9]

PATRICK GASTON: Good morning everyone.

ALL: Good morning.

PATRICK GASTON: Thank you, Karl, for the wonderful introduction. Thank you, Michael and Ed for these great remarks. I extend welcome from our CEO, Ivan Seidenberg, and our 225,000 employees, many of whom are from the Caribbean-mason including me. I want to acknowledge my colleagues and members of the public sector, members of the community, and I also, I guess, want to respect present protocol. Okay, but I have to single out a couple people, right? So thank you to the leader of government Sarah Westcott-Williams for hosting us today and the great people of St. Maarten. It's a delight to be back here. This is my eighth time in St. Maarten and I may stay. (laughter) It's wonderful. I want to acknowledge Karl Rodney for his exceptional ability to bring people together to recognize the collaborations that are important for business development. He does so with the grace that I admire and it's the first time I've had the chance to be here with you, Karl, and it's an honor to be here and a privilege so thank you for inviting me. [0:19:06.0]

I want you all to recognize Rex Nettleford, I don't know if he's in the audience still. But Rex and I have known each other for about nine years when I first joined the Foundation of the University of West Indies Board of Directors. And one of the things that attracted me to the University in addition to Karl, of course, was that Rex was the kind of leader that reflected a lot of commitment and enthusiasm about education; something that I care deeply about. And over the years has provided me with his counsel and friendship and I thank you for that, Rex. (clapping)

You know, Verizon does not have a retail presence in the Caribbean and I hope some day we will. But we do provide global Internet networks that help to provide a lot of communications that you might experience here. So I think we're in the game and we realize the value of technology to ensure that folks have access to incubation and education. In my case at the Verizon Foundation, Karl mentioned that I head up the Verizon Foundation and our emphasis is on education. And what we're trying to do is deliver resources to teachers in the classroom that need it really badly. So we're developing contact and we're taking with our partners, we're taking that contact and making it available through our technology platforms so during the course of today in the discussions that we'll have, we'll talk about that resource. Which, by the way, is offered free of charge to teachers around this country and now around the globe, so we want to make sure that we present this resource as another thing that this community can use and use it in a way that's free. So I'm looking forward to this dialogue and am excited about this Conference and I thank you very much, Karl, for inviting us to hear quality. [0:21:06.2] (clapping)

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you very much. I loved language in school. I remember ottomottopea and phizz and those words and oxymoron, best of times, worst of times, homonyms, the words that sounded alike with different meanings but synonyms when you said the word you could understand what it meant. It was synonymous with something. So when we say the words, "front line", "civic leader", "activist", "Miss NAACP", "world leader", "you don't want to mess with her", you know it is synonymous with Hazel Dukes and we want to hear from her, our God, mother, our community, don't you think I'm right? (clapping) Miss NAACP, Miss Leader, our dignitary, let us receive this morning, the Honorable Hazel Dukes of New York City. Are there any New Yorkers in the house? (clapping) Let's get a little noise over here. All right.

HAZEL DUKES: Good morning.

ALL: Good morning.

HAZEL DUKES: This is my 12th Conference. Missed only one because I had a broken ankle and it was just like four weeks before the Conference, not even, be on the cast. But let me say to Fay and Karl that they have been the glue without the (inaudible). They are for us 24-7. Not only just in New York City but the Islands we have attempted. The NAACP will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in New York City where it was founded July 14 through July 17. Medgar Evers, the college, the university, the (inaudible) of the city of New York, when George Blackburn and I sit and watch TV and we hear all people go over their history, people forgot that it would not have been possible if it was not for those names, Medgar names known or so many others in Alabama for Rosie, decided to sit. So Maude could stand. Maude could not have stood if Rosie hadn't of sat. Rosie was the Secretary of the NAACP, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The Colored People come in all colors, when you make your beautiful salad you just don't want all greenery in it. Even with your omelet this morning you could have a mixture, of beautiful flowers I have to have all colors. And so for a hundred years this old ship resigned, been around. Lord, I was reminiscing last night Congresspersons who we went to the Congressional Black Caucus there was only six. We used to be at the Hilton Hotel. And we held court. When we started in Albany there was no black and Puerto Rican caucus, there was the

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now, the next mayor for the city of New York, Bill Thompson's father, who was the regional director for the NAACP who went on to be now retired. [0:24:54.4]

It would not have been 106 mayor of New York City of Percy's son, a former President of the New York City branch of the NAACP, Balford Calison (sp), Secretary of State and now the government of the state of New York has his first job at the NAACP. So I want us to learn history so we can have our brothers and sisters in (inaudible) and those who are coming to the shore of these United States to understand the kitchen of our connectiveness to (inaudible). How soon you could forget the history that those from the Caribbean have played to make America what she is today. [0:25:44.8]

And so I join with Karl and Fay every year I trek here because they joined with me in New York City trying to break the (inaudible) of the two communities because Rolly Johnson said this morning, Cook said this morning, Johnson Cook said this morning, "When we join hands together, when we come and talk about the multi national conference, we're global now, we can't think we just in Brooklyn, we just can't think we in the Bronx, we just can't think we in Manhattan and in Queens and Staten Island. We are all over this country. And when we saw the crowd of people, black and white, Jew and Gentile, Muslin, Asians, all across this country who came out for Obama, it is a change in America. And then we African-Americans and the Caribbean's have to absolutely solidify our tie. Because if America is to be what she was born to be, it would be that so on behalf of our new President Ben Judds who I'll promise will be here next year, 35-year-old Rhodes scholar, ingratiating young brother who is so excited where we are going. And my sisters in the Congressional Black Caucus and my brothers, we going to get it together. As our Congresswoman told us yesterday, "We're tired of talking about it. It's (audible) we are sick and tired of being the sick and tired." And so when we leave here, we will be better off because we came together to make new friendships, to re-energize and I would say to Karl and to Fay, our sincere gratitude to you for bringing us together as a family each year. Some of us even don't have enough time to sit. That's why Laura convinced me to come a day early. Even if I don't know what's happening with my 401K (laughter) I'm nervous, Mr. Comptroller man. I don't know about vacation but we thought it not right not to come here and be with our family. Thank you so much. [0:28:13.4] (clapping)

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: We thank you so, so much. He began his second term in January 2006 as the 42nd Comptroller of the City of New York. He's come from a distinguished parenthood, a famous judge and a mother as a public school teacher, but he has distinguished his own path. And he has become a wonderful Comptroller of New York City and he has responsibility for all the city's pension funds. He's just a good brother. He's here with us today, hope to be the next mayor of the city of New York. Let's put our hands together for William C. Thompson, Jr., the Comptroller of a great city of New York, New York. All right?

WILLIAM THOMPSON: Thank you Reverend for that very wonderful introduction and it's good to see you here as our Master, or Mistrèss of Ceremonies, this morning. And I go ahead and make a mistake, I should have had the Mayor open up for me because he always does it correctly. But to our leader of government, Commissioner Westcott-Williams, to the members of government here in St. Maarten, my colleagues in government all over the United States, friends, good morning.

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ALL: Good morning.

WILLIAM THOMPSON: It is definitely a pleasure to be back again even though following Hazel to the microphone is always an indubitable thing to do. [0:30:01.1]

END PART 1

09-2222 0033

TRANSCRIPT OF AUDIO FILE:

11-7AMSESSION - 30 THRU 75 MIN

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BEGIN TRANSCRIPT:

(Part 2 – beginning at 30:00 through 1:15)

WILLIAM C. THOMPSON, JR.: - It's good to be back again and let me first start out by thanking, and I always term them as I did last year and I have continued to do it over a period of time, termed them the "dynamic duo," Faye and Karl Rodney. [applause at 0:30:16.7] They happen to be, when it comes to vision - and that's exactly 13 years ago when putting this conference together, they had a vision. It is something that they have never taken a step back from. They continue to move forward. they continue to bring us together. And while we have the opportunity to meet, to have conferences in some wonderful places, just fabulous environments and that is the truth, but they work us, okay. Karl and Faye let us understand that we may meet in a wonderful environment, you walk outside and it's gorgeous, but we are here to accomplish things. [0:30:58.7]

Karl mentioned when we were here before, and I remember the discussions with the members of the Congressional Black Caucus, and it wasn't just those who owned hotels, it was members of government who had indicated then that the (inaudible) \$200 dollar duty-free or the amount that you could bring in the country hadn't changed in decades, in years and years and years. And I remember that members of the Congressional Caucus, the Congressional Black Caucus led by Congressman Charles Rangel, the Chairman, and now he wasn't the Chairman at that point, he went back to Washington and in a period of months the amount had doubled from \$200 to \$400 dollars. It was the right thing to do but you saw the power of this Congress. As I said, we might come together in wonderful places, but it is about business. It is about increasing the ties. It is about the business between the Caribbean and the United States and increasing those business opportunities, helping to raise the standard of living for many; helping to build businesses and institutions, that's what it is about. [0:32:09.5]

Last year, Karl had me down here and - no I'm sorry, last year after our conference I worked. I must admit, Karl had me as a luncheon speaker, we were outside, it was about 85 degrees and I was in a tie okay, I was in a suit and tie and it took me a couple of hours afterwards to dry out. But the one point that was made then was Karl looked at me, and those of you who know me in the

introduction as New York City's Controller, I'm a member, a trustee of four of our five pension boards, chief investment advisor to all five. Our total assets in knowing, it might have shrunk a little, but our total assets are about \$95 billion dollars right now. We are the fifth largest public pension fund in America. [applause at 0:33:02.4] At that point Karl looked at me and said, by the way how much of that is invested in the Caribbean basin? How much of that money is going to create, to build infrastructure, to help with tourism, healthcare and other things? And it was an impressive question and I went back and the answer was not much. Not much, so we started to go at that point down the path of looking at investment possibilities in the Caribbean basin; obviously a very promising area. [0:33:42.0]

To go back to quote just a couple of numbers as we would look at - now it has been a tumultuous year on Wall Street, at the same point, many of the investments, as we were termed that we have made in the emerging markets around the world, have outperformed developed markets. For instance, one year, three year, five year performance of emerging market equities has been on par or better than the United States private equity, the United States venture capital, Western European private equity and U.S. public markets. Clearly it makes sense for institutional investors to begin to move further into those waters of emerging markets. [applause at 0:34:25.8]

So we went back and started to engage, particularly we looked at private equity, and the way we invest usually isn't directly it is in private equity funds, so we began and our private equity consultant, we asked them to take an initial look at the Caribbean basin for how much initially should we be investing. And the number that they came back with was \$80 million dollars. That would be our first step into investment in the Caribbean basin through a variety of investment vehicles. We started to move down that path and unless I am wrong, and if I am I will be short a few people or I will lose a few people in my investment side, but I believe that yesterday back in the office, back in front of one of our pension boards, we approved the first application of \$30 million dollars to be invested in the Caribbean basin. [applause at 0:35:25.8] And, we are going to continue to move forward through other investment vehicles to invest and commit, or really to commit and invest, the additional \$50 million dollars and then we will take a step back and look for other possibilities. [0:35:46.8]

So I just wanted those to know that conversation, that investment of money, and as I pointed out it will range in everything from real estate to infrastructure, industries ranging from healthcare, financial services, energy, telecom, tourism and other areas, but that started last year at this conference. [applause at 0:36:09.8] So to those who say, "Jeeze you are going to St. Maarten? Have a wonderful time. I know you are going to spend a lot of time on the beach," Karl and Faye make sure that we are working hard and that we are getting things done. [0:36:28.6]

And at this conference, while it is great to see friends and colleagues and some people I don't get to see for a year, we are here working and we are here making sure that we increase and bring closer those ties that we have had in the past and that we are helping to grow business, that we are helping to improve quality of life both here in the Caribbean and back in the United States.

So again, it is a pleasure and let me say again to Karl and Faye, thank you so much for the leadership that you have shown. We look forward to your continued leadership for years to come. Thank you so much. [applause at 0:37:04.2]

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REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you for working hard while you are here and even back at home. Thank you. It is so good to be together. We do get to sit down and talk to each other here. We try to get on each other's calendars in the City and we never do, but here we are able to make and transact business and it's wonderful.

As a point of personal privilege, it is not everyday that you have a city world leader that you know very well is a man of faith first of all, who reads the Holy Scripture at your wedding. It's not everyday that you go into (inaudible) flavor at a press conference that he has called and then he comes to the hospital to see the birth of your first child. It's not everyday that you have someone who is there at the blessing of that child who's named after him. It's not everyday that you have someone who hosts Whitehouse Fellows when they run, coming to New York City and gives them the key to New York. And, it's not everyday that we have the first African American Mayor of the City of New York in our midst. We are in the midst of history here. He was the 106th Mayor for the City, but he is our number one Mayor, the Honorable Mayor David Dinkins, Professor in the Practice of Public Affairs at Columbia University [applause at 0:38:16.8], and our wonderful, wonderful leader who's shoulders we stand on and for who we cheer for in honor this day. Let's hear it for the Honorable David Dinkins. [0:38:28.4]

DAVID DINKINS: Well one thing is clear, if I had had the good fortune of having the Reverend introduce me more often I might have gotten re-elected. [laughter at 0:38:48.4] I am delighted to be here, but I want to clear one thing up from the start. I think it should be acknowledged that Faye Rodney has been such a wonderful person and to think that she permits her husband to come along with her the way he does [laughter at 0:39:10.1]. It's really nice. She even lets him think he's in charge every now and then. [laughter at 0:39:16.6] But they are a dynamic duo.

I am delighted to be here with you, I truly am and each year, I guess I've been here ten out of - at least ten times I think - and each year I try to get myself on the committee that will go and do the, make the decisions on where we are going to go next year so I can visit the islands but they have not yet let me come. But each year though, I insist that the tennis facilities be adequate, but I am not playing this time. But I want you to know my friends (inaudible) that they were out on the court this morning and I will get a report and it better be good. [laughter at 0:40:14.3]

I am delighted to be here with you, I truly am and we are taking a role and those folks who are not here now, but are still having breakfast or are out on the beach, we've got their names; [laughter at 0:40:33.0] and we are going to chastise them severely. But it really is a wonderful, wonderful opportunity to come together with friends. For me personally it gives me an opportunity to say thank you to so many of you who helped me become the 106th Mayor of New York. [0:40:51.2]

We say often that everybody stands on somebody's shoulders, and by that we mean Malcolm X and Martin Luther King and (inaudible) and Harriett Tubman and Rosa Parks and for me, for me personally, it also means Percy Ellis Sutton; [applause at 0:41:13.0] who ran in 1977 with such class and distinction that nobody laughed at me when I dared try in 1989. And we were successful and it is a broad leap. [0:41:33.6]

Certainly, I was simply privileged to be the stand bearer, but it was many of you here gathered, many of you who worked with me, worked with me in our administration like Laura and Hazel and so many of you, and I know that we wouldn't have gotten nothing done had it not been for the man called the Rumble Genius by the New York Times, Bill Lynch. [0:42:02.3]

Bill used to say, good government is good politics. And you will note on his literature, he's got a consulting firm now and a whole heap of clients and is doing very, very well, you will note that he uses that slogan and it is certainly true. If you do that which is right in the first instance, it will inure to your benefit politically as well. [0:42:34.5]

So we didn't make judgments politically and then say well let's see how that will play out, we did it the other way around. We did what we thought was right and then it inured to our political benefit and I am so proud of so many of the people who helped us succeed as they go forth now. And I can't believe how young they were, some of them are still young even now and maybe it's because I am so old that it looks that way. But it really is an example of what can happen when good people come together and work hard. [0:43:11.7]

And I know that President-elect Obama is going to do well because he is going to surround himself with bright, intelligent, trustworthy people on whom he can rely on. Because no executive, no executive, not even Ed Goldberg, can get it done alone. You've got to have help and you've got to have people to whom you can delegate and you have to have people who will make a triage. You can't look at the thousands upon thousands of things that will come before you. They have to do a triage and bring to you those that they deem to be of significance for you to make a judgment, and then you will make a decision among them. [0:44:00.6]

I am confident that President-elect Obama will make the correct decision once he knows all the options, but he can't know all of the options if they aren't brought to him in the first instance. And the reason that I have such faith that he will be surrounded by good, bright people is the kind of campaign he ran. [applause at 0:44:26.1] He ran one hell of a campaign so it sort of suggests that he will do as well as our President. That is not easily done, particularly in these difficult times, but when Alan Greenspan said, "By God I didn't know it was this bad," or, never (inaudible) how the hell he doesn't know, how am I supposed to know." So it is difficult for sure, but we are going to survive this. They say that that doesn't kill you makes you stronger, so we are going to survive this. [0:45:01.0]

Ed Goldberg made reference to my custom, my habit that I got from African diplomats of instead of acknowledging everyone in the audience, which I would want to do and my staff would go absolutely crazy because I would acknowledge all of my friends and they - I did that once and my wife was standing right next to me and I acknowledged everybody in the house except her. Hell of a ride home [laughter at 0:45:29.6]. But, the African diplomats have this custom, they say, "Usual protocols observed." So, President Jackson that means that you have been acknowledged. [laughter at 0:45:45.2] See, that's the way they do it because if you do otherwise, if I go on to describe how Hazel is my assistant and how, let me tell you, you don't want Hazel against you ever, but by God if she is on your side, nothing can stop you; you will win. [applause at 0:46:12.5] And we are all going to turn out as she leaves us in celebration of NAACP's on it's anniversary it is going to be a

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monster, it's going to be a gas to be right in New York and I hope everyone here comes. It is really going to be something. [0:46:34.5]

I say to audiences, the media in particular has been asking me, "Well what's it like for President-elect Obama the first African American President of the United States?" And their theory is they are asking me because I was the first black Mayor and I try to explain that there is a world of difference. While I got to be the head of a city of 8 million plus people and that's terrific, and we have more separate ethnic identities than the United Nations has member nations, so we are truly a magnificent city, but Obama is not only the President of the United States, he is the leader of the free world. So you really can't make a comparison, you can't. Although, I am sure that he's got to feel wonderful because as he said as his grandmother wasn't there at the very end, but fortunately he got to see her, imagine how the family feels, his wife, his children, so I do understand that part and it is a hell of an accomplishment that he has done, but even he could not have done it without you. And he knows that and that is the beauty of it. [0:48:02.8]

I recognize that those of us who have been privileged to serve, it is a privilege and you have to see it that way and recognize it that way and do the best that you can under the circumstances, but never, ever believe that you got there alone, because that's just not true. I am almost amused, I say almost because I feel a little sorry for the distinguished Governor of Alaska, and it's coming out now how they are swallowing in house. I don't know whether you have seen the current press and how they talk about the poor lady and she is trying to defend herself and I almost, underline almost, feel sorry for her, but, she made it up there. [0:48:54.1]

So to my friend, Suzan, the Reverend Doctor Suzan Johnson-Cook, you all - many in this audience knows that she took a congregation of about 11 or 12 people, meeting at lunchtime down near City Hall, and built it into a congregation in excess of 1,000. She did that. [applause at 0:49:25.9] She is a very, very special, gifted woman. And I say that she is here with us at this 13th annual meeting, notwithstanding the loss of her dear brother, my friend, our friend, Charles, very recently. A young man who has gone to his reward and she is with us nonetheless and we appreciate it. [0:49:59.4]

Charles was quite a guy. He didn't like to be called Charlie incidentally; he was Charles. It's sort of like if somebody says they know Joe Hines who's name is Charles J. Hines and they'll say, "Oh, I know Charlie" and you know that they don't know him worth a damn because he is Joe Hines. [0:50:24.2]

So, to be here in the company of Carolyn Kilpatrick, the Representative in the Congress who takes care of our brother Charlie Rangel; that is special. That is special. You know one year we had something like 35 members of the Congressional Black Caucus here, I think it was 35, it was over 30 certainly, and that got the attention of a whole lot of people. It got the attention I'm confident of some sponsors who said well next year maybe we ought to up ours a bit and they did and that's the genius of Faye that she let's Karl come along with her here. [laughter at 0:51:15.3]

Its true that international black heads of states have prevailed in nations with majority black populations, but never before, never, ever in the history of the United States has the Chief of State, the Commander in Chief been other than a white male. And many of us grew up in the days of Jim Crow and dozens of African Americans were still being lynched; 24 in 1933 when I was six years

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old. They were still lynching folks and as a matter of fact I can recall some years later as we started to make (we meaning blacks) started to make some progress, we were told things like, "You Negroes (that's what they called us then) you Negroes shouldn't be so pushy, they only lynched five last year." We were supposed to be grateful that so few of us had died. [0:52:15.2]

Then there came World War II; segregation, as we went off to fight and die for our country. And when I got out of the Marine Corps in 1945-1946 and some of my classmates had shrapnel in their bodies, and we could not go to the movies downtown in Washington, D.C., the Nation's Capital, couldn't shop on F Street is you had to try something on, and this is after the war; the war that ended all wars. So we have come a long way since those days, but things are not perfect even now because I maintain that we live in a racist society that is the legacy of slavery, but that does not mean that we have not made great progress. Imagine a black man, President of the United States of America. [applause at 0:53:20.2]

I can remember when there were certain jobs you couldn't even apply for, couldn't even think about it. We got the right to vote by the 15th Amendment in 1870, but we weren't able to exercise that right to vote until 1965 when the Voting Rights Act was passed. As a matter of fact, if you think back on some of the games made during the Civil Rights Days by Dr. King and so many really heroic women and men. And I have to tell you I ain't to sure that I could have followed John Lewis getting beaten down into the ground and he kept coming back, I'm not sure that I could have done that. [0:54:18.7]

I'm not sure that I could have done what the Tuskegee Airmen did. You know about the Tuskegee Airmen, everybody does, they said blacks weren't intelligent enough to learn to fly. And then B.O. Davis who in four years at West Point nobody every spoke to him, they didn't talk to him, and he came through all of that and won the fight for black men to learn to fly and then they said, well you can't go into combat because you will be cowards and turn in the face of the enemy. And then they won that battle and they did it so well that people like Roscoe Brown and Lee Archer and Percy Sutton and so many others, they fly in cover for bombers and never lost a single bomber, not one. [applause 0:55:19.1] So much so that the white bomber pilots would ask for them and I can remember, while I wasn't personally there, the black Marines who were trained in Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, white troops went to Parris Island in South Carolina and they thought that the black Marines were somehow not quite as good as the white Marines, but when the black Marines hit the beach carrying ammo for the guys that were pinned down and running out of bullets, they loved them to death. It's funny what need will do; it's funny. [0:56:16.1]

This election has at last put to rest, I think, any doubt that Americans as a whole oppose the failed economic and social policies of the Bush administration, with its record deficits and recession. Billy Thompson knows about that. Phil used to properly regulate financial industries that led to the loss of retirement pensions and the sub-prime mortgage crisis, outsourcing of American jobs, increased unemployment and refusal to work toward a living wage for job offers, failure to support programs that curtail practices that harm the environment and damage or destroy natural resources, failure to end the war in Iraq and approve any meaningful plan to withdraw troops. [0:57:12.3]

Speaking of Iraq, don't it just get you right here when the Bush people lied to Colin Powell and sent him to the United Nations to tell those lies, and didn't it make you feel good when he came out

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for Obama recently; I mean you know [applause at 0:57:38.5] by God, and he is a guy, you know, he is one of our heroes. He truly is, he truly is. [0:57:52.2]

The American people have spoken across the party lines, social classes and racial divide in support of programs to provide affordable and accessible healthcare, to stimulate economic growth and provide a living wage for American workers, to transform energy consumption and reduce American dependence on foreign oil to improve schools by ending No Child Left Behind, and end the war in Iraq and bring the troops home. Some of you will recall that when the troops came home after Vietnam, our country treated them terribly. They spit at them. They didn't ask to go, but they were treated awful. Korea was a little different. And as Charlie Rangle says, he hasn't seen a bad day since. Charlie was pinned down in a foxhole and came out of there with a Purple Heart and Bronze Star and he hasn't seen a bad day since. [0:58:57.2]

But, even though Americans, whether Democrats, Republicans or Independents, have responded overwhelmingly in support of measure that the new President may be compromised I say, at the outset by the actions of the outgoing administration. Keep in mind that he doesn't take office until January 20th and I'm counting on our friends in the Congress to do whatever they can to see to it that he doesn't start off in a whole, because that is what can happen. It is possible; I hope it doesn't happen. [0:59:41.9]

Earlier this year in February of 2008 I participated in a panel at a meeting of the Independent Newspapers International Advisory Board in Cape Town, South Africa on the topic "End of the Bush Era in the United States." And our discussion, neither prophetic or profound, merely reflected the ground swell for change that has this week resulted in one of the most historic moments in American history; the landslide election of the first African American to the Presidency of the United States of America. [1:00:20.7]

The majority of the American public, irrespective of political party affiliation welcomes the end of the Bush administration, by whatever measure we choose to evaluate its impact, domestic and global, this has been a failed presidency that has brought the United States to the brink of disaster and some say beyond the brink. We could recite the long list of offenses perpetrated or orchestrated by that administration that have passed in the name of foreign policy and global economy. [1:00:57.0]

While the United States has now emerged from unprecedented two-year campaigns, some like the New York Times editorial staff have cautioned that we should pay close attention to the efforts underway to perpetrate the policies of the past seven years with Bush. And at the risk of putting a damper on the celebration of Tuesday's victory, I do feel compelled to call attention to a few of the concerns that lay immediately ahead. [1:01:31.7]

True the Congress has a Democratic majority and the political capital of the sitting administration has been all but spent by the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the worst economy since the Great Depression, but even with the lowest approval rating of any president in the history of our country, he has pressed on to do everything possible within his remaining days to compromise the new president, who will take office with the greatest mandate from the people in a century. [1:02:05.6]

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He has abused the political process more than any of his predecessors, undermining the power of Congress through the use of Signing Statements. Over the last seven years he has issued hundreds of these documents, devices showing us that he had no intention of obeying laws, that he has claimed impinged on the constitutional powers of the Chief Executive. Examples of such Signing Statements are those that authorize domestic surveillance without warrants, torture of prisoners in violation of the Geneva Convention, and firing U.S. Attorneys for political reasons. [1:02:50.5]

Others include a host of executive actions designed to impede congressional programs to expand health insurance and prevent further pollution of the environment. The disastrous Bush Lame Duck Budget proposal announced at his last State of the Union Address contained provisions for permanent tax cuts for the wealthy and the highest level of military spending since World War II and reductions in spending for medical research, environmental protection and education. [1:03:26.9]

President Obama will have to contend with this and a series of other eleventh hour measures. We are confident that Congress will reach across the aisle to combat the resultant stranglehold from President Obama's ability and move forward our country. We have a long way to go in repairing the damage done over the past seven years. And although we deserve to relish the moment of victory, we do understand that we have more battles to fight and miles to go before we sleep. [1:04:00.1]

We should congratulate those other political leaders, some of whom are with us here today in St. Maarten, for their election and reelection victories as well. [applause at 1:04:11.2] And as one of these, the Dean of the New York City Delegation of Democrats, my brother Charlie Rangle. And this is a quote from my brother, Charlie says, "The world we look at is a world of many colors, many cultures, many faiths and what we as Americans have to offer is our experience in creating a diverse society as we show the world all of the diversity that is the strength of America. We reflect our values and present an example to the world. With our nation growing international involvement there could be no better time to attract the best and most diverse (inaudible) to represent the American people in every corner of the globe." so says Charlie Rangle. [1:05:05.3]

When we break for lunch we will hear the distinguished Governor of my home state of New York, the Honorable David A. Paterson. He will talk about the importance of building upon the partnerships necessary to translate the watershed victory of democracy in the United States into lasting change. I can't resist remind us that the governor's father, Basil Paterson, once won 61 out of 62 counties in New York State in a Democratic Primary for Lieutenant Governor. And then he joined the of (inaudible) of Goldberg. He was a former United States Secretary of Labor, former United States Supreme Court Justice, former United States United Nations Ambassador, the lousiest damn candidate you ever saw. So Basil did not win, but he would have become the first black Lieutenant Governor of New York State and eyes on the first black governor. So imagine, as I sat in the front row at the state committee meeting and Basil placed David's name in nomination for Lieutenant Governor. I had tears in my eyes. It had come full circle and now that same David is Governor of the State of New York and you will hear from him later. [applause at 1:06:41.3]

Later this afternoon we will meet to share our thoughts and plans for sharing working solutions to education. There are challenges is business and political leaders will be to craft strategies for keeping the doors of the international education open to our future leaders. The world will be a

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dimmer place if we let the lamp of knowledge go out for a generation of our young people. It is within our power to turn up the flame and keep it burning bright, and in the words of President-elect Barack Obama, "Yes we can." [applause at 1:07:24.8]

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON-COOK: Thank you Mr. Mayor, and thank you for looking so wonderful. He's dapper, Amen! Doesn't he look good? [laughter and applause at 1:07:42.4] And Barack Obama stands on your shoulders because you took the blows that shows what a man of faith could do and we thank you for representing us well. [1:07:52.3]

We also are joined by many a (inaudible) joints throughout this conference by many elected officials and some are here this morning; elected officials from the State of New York. You will hear later from the Honorable David Paterson, you heard from our City Controller Honorable William C. Thompson, Jr., Honorable Adolfo Carrion, Jr., President of the Borough of the Bronx; Honorable Nick Perry the Assemblyman for New York State, The Honorable Ruth Hassle-Thompson, State Senator New York State, the Honorable Keith Wright is with us this morning, Assemblyman for the New York State the Honorable Inez Dickens, Council Whip, Member of the New York City Council, and Honorable Dr. Kendall Stewart, Member of the New York City Council. Can we applaud for all of the elected officials from the State of New York? [applause at 1:08:34.3]

And then members of Congress who will be joining us throughout, some of whom you heard last night and today, the Honorable Donald Payne, the Chair of the Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, the Honorable Bennie Thompson, Chair of Homeland Security, Honorable Donna Christensen, the Honorable Chair of the Subcommittee on National Resources, Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee and now we are also going to hear from one of our Presidents of the Congressional Black Caucus, the Honorable Carolyn Cheeks-Kilpatrick. We are going to the federal level y'all [applause at 1:09:09.6] who is our President, Madam President and will be working with Mr. President would you please come and let us receive her this morning for what a wonderful job you have done and you have served with distinction as well and we celebrate and salute you this morning. Can we applaud the other members of the Congress who are with us? [applause at 1:09:29.1]

REP. CAROLYN CHEEKS-KILPATRICK: Giving honor to God who is the head of my life, present protocol being established [laughter at 1:09:46.3], but I've got to say a couple even given that. To Faye and Karl, its really thoroughly been said but thank you from the bottom of all of our hearts. We could not do this without you. Thank you very, very much. [applause 1:10:00.4] We could (inaudible) every week in our Washington offices, but that's how we keep up with the Caribbean if not for the newspaper, there would be no association that we could actually see and know what is going on and how we (inaudible) so thank you very much from the bottom of our heart. Thank you very much. [applause at 1:10:18.6] Commissioner Wescot-Williams as well as all the commissioners over here. St. Maarten, one more time, thank you for hosting us one more time, we love you, thank you very much. [1:10:29.4]

Our key ingredients for the Congressional Black Caucus where I Chair 43 members, we come from 21 states, we present over 40 million Americans; [applause at 1:10:40.8] five full Committee Chairs, 17 Subcommittee Chairs and others like the Majority Whip and Jim Clyburne from South

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Carolina and others who help to control the Congress. We have the first African doctor in the house, a member of our Caucus who chairs our health branches and very instrumental in us being here, why don't you welcome my sister, Dr. Congresswoman Donna Christensen. [applause 1:11:11.7] Thank you, we love you.

It was mentioned earlier that, and I'm going to say who else is here, you heard from Dr. Payne and I know if he is here in this room you will hear from him again, you did last night, who chairs our Western Hemisphere Committee. Bennie Thompson who is here and I think he came through last night, he chairs our Homeland Security Committee also will be here. Sheila Jackson Lee from Houston, Texas and I know many of you know her, she is en route and will be here just shortly. Our number uno Congressman, second only to John Conyers in seniority, from the great state of New York, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, our big brother Charlie Rangle will be here this afternoon. [applause at 1:11:55.3]

And what you probably don't know is the federal budget is \$3 trillion dollars. Charlie's committee handles \$2 trillion of that for Medicare, Medicaid, for veterans programs; his committee is the committee that produces the revenue, \$2 trillion of it, giving it out in what we call entitlements to those programs. I served on Appropriations where the committee spends the money, and I like that too. We spend a million and Charlie generates it and gives it all by formula to the entire committee and our committee handles the appropriations in sending it out. [1:12:33.0]

Together we make up the Congressional Black Caucus and it was said earlier, many more members will be coming and will have come over the years, but I just wanted to say a point of personal privilege, this last six months, the last two months and the last two weeks, members of the Congressional Black Caucus have been crisscrossing America for our now President, Senator Barack Obama. [applause at 1:13:00.1] Even as we had our own elections [applause 1:13:02.4] Tuesday we were all on the ballot as well but (inaudible) just thinking as it relates to it's is major, but most of us went to many states all over this country. [1:13:12.4]

You see 18 of our members represent less than 50% of the African Americans; three of our members represent less than 15% African Americans, the most that any of us represent is a 62% African American so we represent all of America, Asians, Africans, Latinos, Europeans, Native Americans, you name it and we are called the conscious of the Congress and we really are that you know. [1:13:38.5]

God built us from a certain kind of way and we got some of this stuff in us that you do, you cross ethnic lines and it makes us stand up for righteousness, speak up on injustices and when we see something wrong you have to hear it because, of course, we are the conscious of the Congress. So in the spirit of (inaudible) is that Congresswoman Christensen talks about healthcare it's real. They have more because we have less. [1:14:03.2]

We hope and we know that with President Obama yes we had some difficult times in the Mayor laid them out well. And to the sponsors by the way, all of you, we couldn't do this, be with you, help Karl if you weren't here with us so we say thank you very much, you are so important. To all of the sponsors, thank you very much. [applause at 1:14:23.9]

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So as we move to these next four years, two months, 32 days - talk about the short period between November 5th and August 20th, [sic] President Bush is still the President. Our Constitution says that if there is unrest or malice or whatever, the sitting President can hold off and not let happen the January 20th date. There isn't many people that know about that, so we don't want any - we were kind of scared about November 4th when we won. We wanted everybody to be prayerful, be (inaudible) and have fun and all that, don't burn [1:15:00.5]

END PART 2

09-2222 0044

TRANSCRIPT OF AUDIO FILE:

11-7AMSESSION - LAST 20 MIN

Thank you for working with Accentance for your transcription needs. The text below represents a professional transcriptionist's understanding of the words spoken. No guarantee of complete accuracy is expressed or implied, particularly regarding spellings of names and other unfamiliar or hard-to-hear words and phrases. "(ph)" or "(sp?)" indicate phonetics or best guesses. To verify important quotes, we recommend listening to the corresponding audio. Timestamps throughout the transcript facilitate locating the desired quote, using software such as Windows Media or QuickTime players.

BEGIN PART 3:

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON COOK: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Thank you for looking so wonderful. He's dapper. Amen. Doesn't he look good? (clapping). Barack stands on your shoulders because you took the blows and showed what a man of faith could do and we thank you for representing us well.

We also are joined by many and will be joined throughout this conference by many elected officials. Some are here this morning; elected officials from the State of New York. You will hear later from the Honorable David Patterson. You've heard from our city controller, William C. Thompson, Jr., Honorable Adolpho Carrion, Jr., President of the Burroughs of the Bronx, Honorable Nick Hardy, the assemblyman from New York State, the Honorable Ruth Hassell Thompson, State Senator of New York State, the Honorable Keith Wright is with us this morning, assemblyman from New York State, the Honorable Inez Dickens, council whip member of the New York City Council, and Honorable Dr. Kendall Stuart, member of the New York City Council. Can we applaud for all of the elected officials of the State of New York? (clapping).

Members of Congress who will be joining us throughout. Some of whom you have heard from them last night and today, the Honorable Donald Payne, Chair of Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, the Honorable Bennie Thompson, Chair of Homeland Security, Honorable Donna Christensen, the Honorable Chair of Subcommittee on National Resources, Honorable Sheila Jackson-Lee, and now we hope to also hear from one of our presidents of the Congressional Black Caucus, the Honorable Carolyn Cheeks-Kilpatrick. We're going to the federal level you all; who is our (inaudible) president. We're only working with Mr. President. Will you please come and let us receive her this morning for what a wonderful job you have done and you have served with distinction as well, and we celebrate and salute you this morning. Can we applaud the other members of Congress (inaudible) (clapping).

REP. CAROLYN CHEEKS-KILPATRICK: Giving honor to God who's the head of my life, present protocol being established, but I've got to say in comfort even given that. To Fay and Karl, really (inaudible) really from the bottom of all of our hearts, I cannot be this without you. Thank

you very much. We could (inaudible) ever week in our Washington offices and that's how we keep up with the Caribbean. If not for the newspaper, there would be no association that we could actually see and know what's going on and how we plug in. So thank you very much from the bottom of my heart. Thank you very much.

Commissioner Wescott-Williams, as well as all commissioner's who are here, St. Maarten, one more time. Thanks for hosting us. We love you. Thank you very much.

I bring you greetings from the Congressional Black Caucus, where I chair 43 members. We come from 21 states. We represent over 40 million Americans, 5 full mini chairs, 17 subcommittee chairs, and others like the majority whip and Jim Clyburn from South Carolina, and others who helped to control the Congress. We have the first African doctor in the house, a member of our caucus, who chairs our health brain trust and very instrumental in being here. As being here, won't you welcome my sister back, your Congresswoman Donna Christensen? Thank you, Donna. We love you.

It was mentioned earlier that, I'm going to say who else is here, you heard from Donald Payne, and I know if he's hear in this room, you will hear from him again. You did last night. He chairs our Western Hemisphere Committee. Bennie Thompson, who's here, and I think he came through last night, he chairs our Homeland Security Committee. Also will be here. Sheila Jackson-Lee from Houston, Texas. I know many of you know her. En route, she will be here just shortly. Our number uno congressman, second only to John Conyers in seniority, from the great State of New York, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, our big brother, Charlie Rangel, will be here this afternoon.

What you probably don't know is that the federal budget is \$3 trillion dollars. Charlie's committee handles \$2 trillion of that for Medicare, Medicaid, for veteran's programs. His committee is the committee that produces the revenue, \$2 trillion of that given out in what we call, "entitlements" to those programs. I serve on appropriations, where the committee spends the money. I like that too. We spend a million. Charlie generates it and gives it out by formula to the entitlements. Our committee handles the appropriations and sends them out. Together we make up the Congressional Black Caucus.

As it was said earlier, many more members will be coming and have come over the years, but I just wanted to say, a point of personal privilege. This last 6 months, the last 2 months, and the last 2 weeks, Members of the Congressional Black Caucus have been criss-crossing America for our now president, Senator Barack Obama. Even as we had our own election, Tuesday, August 4th, we were all on the ballot as well, but ours wasn't as significant as relates to us as major, but most of us went to many states all over this country. You see, 18 of our members represent less than 50% African-American. Three of our members represent less than 15% African-American. The most that any of us represent is 62% African-American. So we represent all of America; Asians, Africans, Latinos, Europeans, Native Americans. You name it.

We're called the Conscience of the Congress and we really are that. You know, God built us in a certain kind of way. We got some of this stuff in us, as you do with you. Across ethnic lines, it makes us stand up for righteousness, speak up on injustices, and when we see something wrong,

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you have to hear it because, of course, we're the Conscience of the Congress. So the disparities that Donna, Congresswoman Christensen, talks about in health care, it's real. They have more because we have less. We hope and we know that with President Obama, yes we have some difficult times and the Mayor laid them out well. And to the sponsors by the way, all of you all. We couldn't do this, be with you, help Karl if you weren't here with us. We say, "thank you very much. You are so important". All the sponsors. Thank you very much.

So as we move through these next 4 years, 2 months, 32 days, talk about the short period between November 5th and August 20th. President Bush is still the president. Our constitution says that if there is unrest or malice or whatever, the sitting president can hold off and not let happen the 20th day. There are few people that know about that. So we don't want any, we were kind of scared about November 4th when we won. We wanted everybody to do prayer. There will be a tone-in and have fun, and all that. Don't burn nothing down. Don't burn up a car and all that because they're waiting. Some people are waiting. Some people are very angry. We are euphoric. God is euphoric and people across ethnic lines, you saw them. The multi-cultural facets of America happy because it was a perfect storm. Financial markets crashing. People losing jobs. Health care unaffordable. Our schools in shambles. Big bad America and we still are; it's just this 8 years we have a man in the White House who knew not Joseph. In his leadership of our country, he not only decimated America, but caused havoc around the world. I know you know that.

So we've got a lot of building to do. What Karl and Fay has done is to energize each of us so we take our rightful places. All of you and all of us together. I'm going to bring into this room 2 of my sisters who we lost over the last year. Congresswoman Stephanie Stubb-Jones, Cleveland, Ohio, will be right here. Right over here, smiling and said "Let's do this". I want you to give a shout-out for Stephanie. She's up in here right now. Congresswoman Juanita Milligram-McDonald from Los Angeles, also with the ancestors are up in here right now. Both chair people I might add. Congresswoman Stephanie Stubb-Jones (sp) of our Ethics Committee and Congresswoman Juanita (inaudible) McDonald of our House Administration Committee. Finally, all during this tenure, 2 years is what Congress is, this is the 110th congress. So many historical things have happened that I mentioned to you already, including electing our first African-American president. Then finally Julia Carson from Indianapolis, Indiana, also (inaudible) has been to this conference many many times.

So my brothers and sisters across racial, ethnic gender, geographic, biological, (inaudible) we have much work to do, but it can be done. Because I believe there is a higher power who's directing all of this. We just have to know it and believe it, and do it, and be centered in a higher power.

So as members of the Congressional Black Caucus, as we go back next week to address the financial crisis. You all have been hearing about this \$700 billion, every time I say it, we handle a trillion, our committee. \$700 billion is what we just gave out or given out as we speak. The good thing about that, they were trying to give it all out. \$300 billion of it is gone, but the good news, the new president, anything they put in force, he can pull it back. So we have an opportunity to do some real comprehensive stuff.

The housing market? No more foreclosures. Those same people who got the \$700 billion, they were the ones who caused 80%, 85% of the foreclosing. Do you all know that? Predatory lending.

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Loss of jobs. Shifting our jobs over seas. You see, when the financial people do their thing, (inaudible) a billion here and here. It's paper. It's two clicks of the mouse. They were selling bad paper then and they were making big money. My sister, Susan. Let's give Susan a hand. Essence Magazine. Love you girl. (inaudible). We have to be smarter and better as we go forward. Senator Barak Obama, and you may have heard about his prudent campaign. Most of us in this room a 1-1/2 or 2 years, we thought it couldn't done, because we lived with the same people who had to do it. But the perfect storm. Don't forget that. The perfect storm caused by humans. Greedy humans in many cases.

I do a lot of work in the Middle East; Egypt, as well as Lebanon. I do (inaudible) and they're great people, but this president castigated Arabs. In Michigan, where I come from, and John Conyers, we have the largest population of Arabs outside of the Middle East. They've been in our community for decades. They go to our schools. Our children know them. They help and help to build the community. Yes, there are a few bad ones who blew up some (inaudible). God took care of them. They're going to be taking care of. But just like we don't want everybody to measure African-American by a few who do bad things, there are good things in all people. I believe that as President Obama comes into fruition, a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, his job, and he really does believe this, is to bring the races of God's people together. Whether you know God as God, or Allah, or Jehovah, or what have you, that if you really believed in a higher power, let's get busy and rebuild the world.

So, my brothers and sisters, we got a lot of work to do and you do as we go back to New York. Keep the (inaudible) operating. Keep your will strong and knowing that, as president takes his oath and pray that nothing happens between November 5th and January 20th. He can call marshall law. He can go around the country and lock up heathens and Christians, which isn't going to happen. Lock up anybody who might be subversive or such. Create an environment so that January 20th may not ever happen. That's the nightmare. Now snap back. Wake up. He won. It's going to be all right. Let's build a new America again. Let's make sure that our children can have adequate education because it's no longer Michigan against Indiana or Ohio, Michigan against China. It's US against the world and we can build those partnerships the way we do with Faye and Karl, and all of us who have been working for all of these years.

Thirteen is a significant number in the Bible. Thirteen is a number that renews us, gets us ready for the next state of our development. So as we meet here in beautiful St. Maarten, let us rededicate ourselves to a higher power to each other, to knowing that we can do anything but fail. God bless you. (clapping).

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON COOK: Now that's a sister who's got it going on. Thank you so, so much, Congresswoman, Madam President of the Congressional Black Caucus. We can see why. Amen. We are looking forward to great things ahead and you have us as the wind beneath your wings. All of you Congressional Black Caucus members, we are with you so much. Let the church say, "Amen".

We just want to share with you before we present our next speaker. This evening, our host country is going to present us with a fantastic affair. It's going to be offsite and we hope you won't miss it. Transportation is going to be coordinated and we are going to ask that you meet in the lobby at 6:15

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tonight. The transportation will be coordinated by our local government. It's a casual event. It's a beach site affair tonight and we're asking all conference attendees to gather at 6:15 sharp in the lobby for departure. So that's our night affair tonight and we will repeat that announcement throughout the day. If you will just please make note of that as we go forward.

We've heard from the city level. We have heard from the federal government. You know, we are so excited about our first African-American president and many of us also wanted a woman in and it was not a woman's time. It was time for Barak Obama, but in this country, it is a woman's time. As the commissioner who is the leader of government for St. Maarten: Come on somebody. It is Commissioner Sarah Westcot-Williams, our host. She has been gracious. She is elegant. She is eloquent and we are excited about being received by her today. Commissioner Sarah Westcot-Williams. (clapping)

COMMISSONER SARAH WESTCOT-WILLIAMS: Thank you reverends and a very good morning. There's another way to deal with the selfish (sp) protocol and that is by saying, "Welcome friends to St. Maartens". I can say this notwithstanding the many luminaries in our midst because it is truly a welcome to old friends and new acquaintances.

This conference, at this time, on this island, would not have been possible if it was not for the resoluteness and conviction of Mr. and Mrs. Rodney. It was 6 years ago that many of you were here on St. Maarten for the conference as well. It is with a lot of confidence that last year, I threw out the idea of why not again St. Maarten., has been at that time five years ago. This year, it is six years ago. It was only after throwing it up as we sat down to plan, I realized that this conference would have been held two days following the most important election in modern times of the United States of America. As we, Commissioner Malven (sp) and myself visited Karl and Fay in New York, I said to him, "Karl, as much as I want this conference on St. Maarten, I don't know if the timing is right." He said without being presumptuous about the outcome of the election, he said, "Oh no. I believe the timing is right". And with a glee in his eyes, I suspected that he was counting on a victory and a big one, and felt that St. Maarten would be a place where we could celebrate that victory.

This small island of ours, and I'm aware of the clock just in case I was to get any sign from the back, but this small island of ours, only 37 square miles and that is both sides of the island, tonight you probably would understand. You will get to know how we share the island, but I can tell you that St. Maarten is the smallest side of the two. Nevertheless, we accommodate close to two million tourists annually on this island. Approximately 1.3 million visit our island by cruise and the others come here to stay over with us, relax and enjoy our island. And yes it is so opportune and truly a region in transition.

Throughout this region, every island, every island nation, every country, is going through some sort of transition. For St. Maarten itself, we are going through a major constitutional transition. Moving from what others term as called an island-territory, a remnant of a colonial system, to that of country within the kingdom of the Netherlands. The French side, just last year, moved from a French municipality to what is called in their terms, "a collectivity". So yes, this region is truly in transition and change is all around us. This side is so important for the relationships between the

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United States of America and the Caribbean region. I am again so thrilled to hear so many of you speak of kinship, relationships, and ancestry as you recognize this region for what it is.

Term water (sp)? Yes. Maybe, but definitely a part of the United States of America. However you take it or twist it. The Diaspora of the West Indies and the United States of America. It's big. It is great and we need to continue to recognize that forging those relationships strengthen it year after year through this conference call is extremely important. As if it wasn't enough to realize that we were going to start a conference two days after such an important election, just barely three weeks ago, St. Maarten was brushed by Hurricane Omar, a category 3 hurricane. So if you were around and you noticed that the scenery is not exactly what you expected of it, if you feel a little in the roads as you go from place to place, recognize that that is what had happened. But Karl decided the conference was going to go on and the conference will go on, Karl, right here in St. Maarten.

So tonight it is my pleasure to host you at another side of the island because you are here two days after the election, two days after a historic election, and yes, notwithstanding the turmoil and the challenges, President Barak Obama is going to face, the party too will continue and the party on St. Maarten will continue this evening on the other side of the island hosted by the Government of St. Maarten. I encourage you and those who are part of the latest workshop this afternoon, to do it well, right, and try to get out as soon as possible so that we can move from here in a timely fashion and the police escort will only be something to show you how proud we are of having all of you here. But we will get to the other side of the island nicely, on time. A region in transition. Thank you for being here at this time in your history and in our history.

I welcome all of you and it is wonderful to be able to open this conference in a time like this because it is for such a time that you are here and we are here, and it is such a time that President Barak Obama was chosen to lead the United States of America and, with that leadership, to be the leader of the free world. If, just if, approximately 40,000 more persons voted could have given him even more votes, he would have had those from right here on St. Maarten, the friendly island of the early (inaudible). So today, we too rejoice with you and we too are hopeful that the change that is coming will be a good one for all of us. We just hope that some of that invigoration and renewed energy that we all will get from this conference will serve you well, when you go back and will serve us well as we continue to build our island nations from strength to strength and with God, all things are possible. Have we not seen that on November 4, 2008. What a wonderful way to celebrate and, Karl, what a wonderful thing to happen (inaudible) St. Maarten and deciding the conference welcomes the 13th Annual Multi-National Caribbean Business Conference. Thank you. Welcome. Enjoy it and may God continue to bless you richly. Thank you.

The question was how casual can you be tonight? You be as casual as you feel comfortable on an island that is your host. So men, absolutely no jacket and ties. I would not recommend that, but be as casual as you've been comfortable. Thank you.

REV. DR. SUZAN JOHNSON COOK: All right. This is where we break. Hold on. We have (inaudible) ceremony. If you will just wait for us please. We're going to invite all of the sponsors and the elective officials to please join the Rodneys as our host today, here up front for our ribbon cutting ceremony. All of our sponsors, all of our elected officials that are present, please come and

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join us up front. Those who are our speakers this morning, please right here in the front of the stage, and we will be lead. All rise. (singing)

END TRANSCRIPT

09-2222 0051

Exhibit 4

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative of Citi
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: March 17, 2009
Location: AkinGump NYC - 399 Park Ave, New York, NY
Time: approximately 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: The Representative of Citi was the Citi employee who managed their donation to the Thirteenth Annual Multinational Business Conference. The OCE requested an interview with the Representative of Citi and he consented. The Representative of Citi made the following statements in response to questioning:

1. The Representative of Citi was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. The Representative of Citi signed a written acknowledgement of the warning [attached],
2. The Representative of Citi was laid off from Citibank on December 15, 2008. At the time he was laid off he was Community Relations Officer for Brooklyn and Staten Island
3. The Representative of Citi joined Citi in December 2003. He had previously worked for Chase in a similar capacity. Chase sponsored previous Caribbean Multinational Business Conferences. The Representative of Citi attended the conference when he was at Chase. Chase was the first financial institution to act as a sponsor at the conference.
4. When he came to Citi, he was told to "lead the charge" in terms of Citi's participation in the conference. His superiors made the decision that Citi should participate.

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5. The Representative of Citi's direct supervisor was Eileen Aulden, New York State Director; she reported to Kathy Ebanks, Regional Director. Eric Eve, Senior Vice President for Community Relations headed the Representative of Citi's department. Mr. Eve made the decision to support the conference and decided on the dollar amount. The Representative of Citi was in charge of managing Citi's participation.
6. Citi donated \$75,000 to support the conference. Citi was the only "senior" sponsor. The money was specifically for the conference. Citi did not put any specific restrictions on how the money could be used to support the conference. The check came from Citi's sponsorship budget and was either made out to the Carib News or the Carib News Foundation.
7. In previous years the amount Citi donated was less. In 2007 it was \$50,000.
8. Karl Rodney chose the location of the conference. Governments in the region made bids to host the conference.
9. The only person from the conference that the Representative of Citi dealt with was Rodney. The Representative of Citi met with Rodney on 5 occasions between May and November 2008. These meetings concerned the program at the conference and Citi's participation in it. These meetings were not about the amount of Citi's sponsorship or to negotiate that in any way. The Representative of Citi described this interaction as a "dialogue" with Rodney. Rodney was receptive to suggestions about the program.
10. At these meeting the Representative of Citi would tell Rodney how he would like to "position" Citi at the conference. Citi participated in the luncheon, with Eve as a keynote speaker, and in workshops that fit their business. The lunch topic was set by Rodney. The Representative of Citi then tried to "position" Eve in a complimentary way. The Representative of Citi recalls suggesting to Rodney that Citi could do a workshop on financial education.
11. Rodney did not present a written agenda for the conference before any of their 5 meetings. The first time the Representative of Citi saw a written agenda was a week or a week and a half before the conference began in early November. The Representative of Citi recalls seeing a draft agenda. He was shown the draft agenda submitted to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct [attached as Exhibit B] and said he saw some version of the draft agenda but not this specific one. He did recall seeing the panel entitled, "Creative Financial Solutions?" on page 9 of Exhibit B. He said when he saw

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that panel he thought he could participate in the panel and talk about foreclosures. He "vetted" that topic internally at Citi and then proposed it to Rodney and Rodney agreed.

12. The Representative of Citi attended the dinner on Thursday night. He does not recall Congressman Payne speaking.
13. The Representative of Citi participated in the ribbon cutting with members of Congress, host government officials and major sponsors on the Friday morning of the conference. The Representative of Citi got sick on Friday and missed the evening event.
14. Eve did not have a sit-down meeting with the members of Congress in attendance to the Representative of Citi's knowledge.
15. The Representative of Citi did not have more than "cursory" conversations with the Members of Congress who attended. He saw all members that attended more than once. He saw most of them on Friday and had seen everyone by Saturday.
 - a. The Representative of Citi recalled Congressman Rangel was there. The Representative of Citi thought he first saw him on Friday and saw him on Saturday. The Representative of Citi thought he saw him at different events.
 - b. The Representative of Citi saw Congressman Payne on more than one occasion.
 - c. The Representative of Citi saw Representative Kilpatrick early on Friday. He does not recall her speaking.
 - d. The Representative of Citi saw Representative Thomson on Thursday; he saw him on more than one occasion.
16. 300 to 350 people typically attended the event. It was open to anyone.
17. The conference was billed as the Carib News conference. Rodney is the publisher and CEO of the Carib News. In May or June one would start seeing advertisements for the conference on the back page of the Carib News. The Representative of Citi thought Citi's check went to the Carib News Foundation but did not know what the Foundation did other than the conference. The Representative of Citi thought the conference was "totally" financed by the sponsors. He did not know if Carib News put up any money for the conference.

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18. The Representative of Citi said Rodney saw the conference as an opportunity to position the Carib News as the "voice of the Caribbean" which is how the paper markets itself in New York.
19. Citi saw the conference as offering Citi three benefits: (1) it sent a message to their partners; (2) it was a business opportunity; and (3) it was good for Citi's image.
20. The members of Congress lent the meeting "clout."
21. Sponsors also bought ad space in the Carib News. This was not part of their sponsorship of the conference. Citi bought ad space in the Carib News.
22. The Representative of Citi also knows Rodney from the Board of the University of the West Indies. Both he and Rodney are members and participate in telephone meetings and, occasionally, in in-person meetings.

We certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with the Representative of Citi on March 17, 2009.

Leo J. Wise
Staff Director & Chief Counsel

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: MARCH 23, 2009

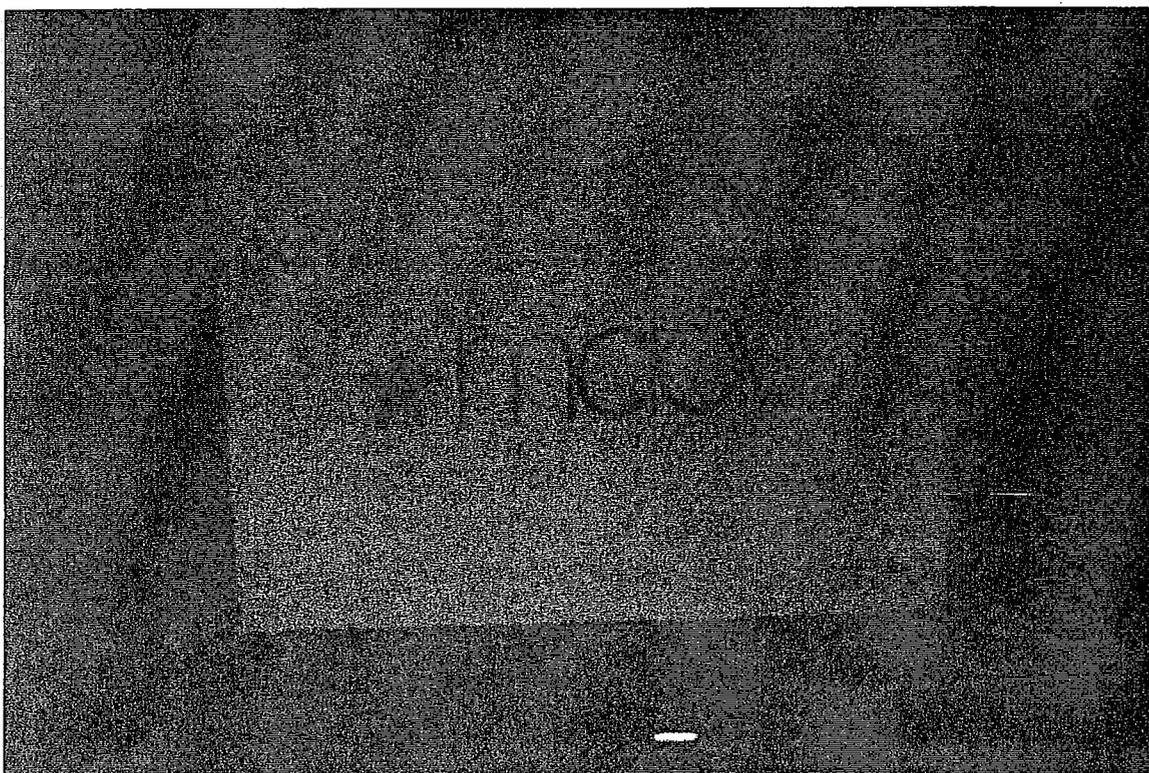
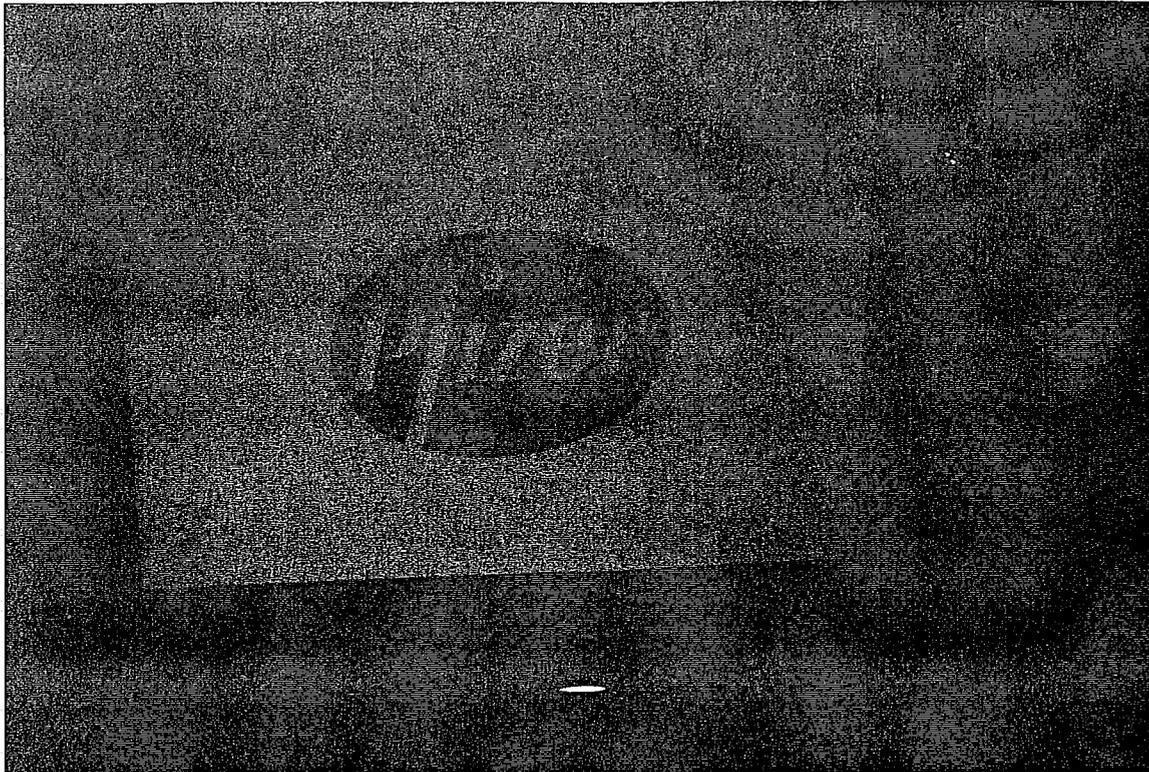
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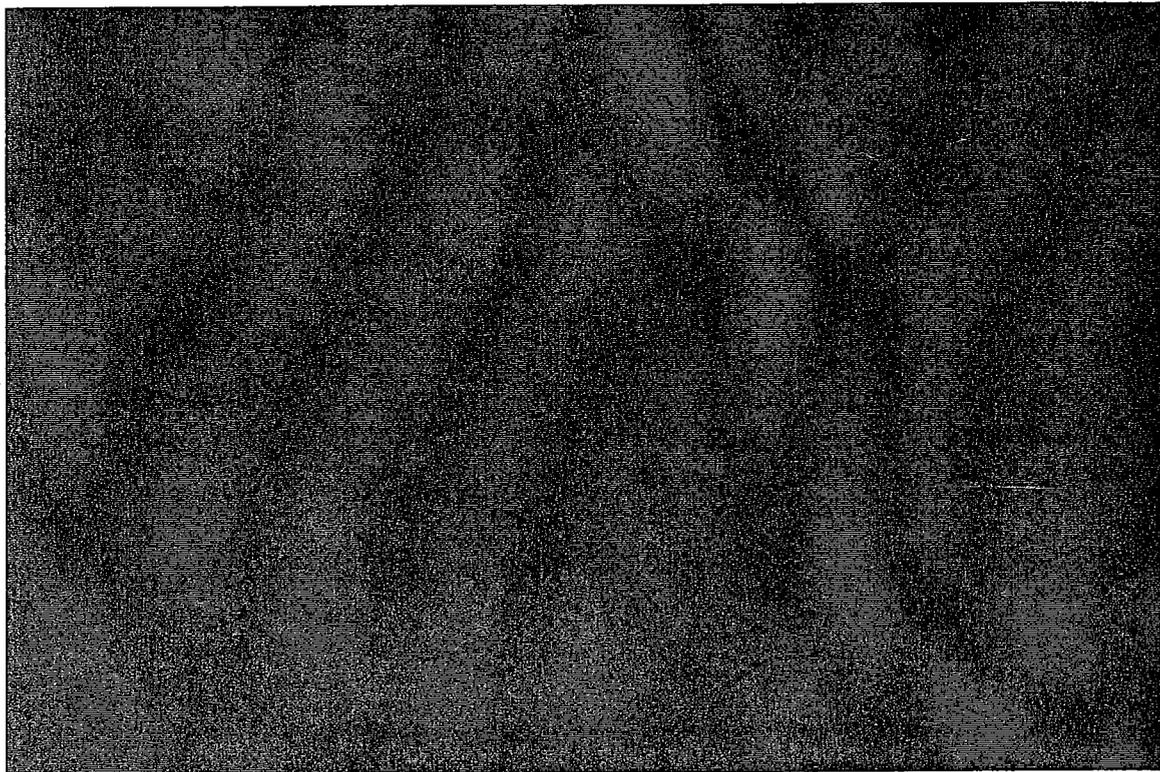
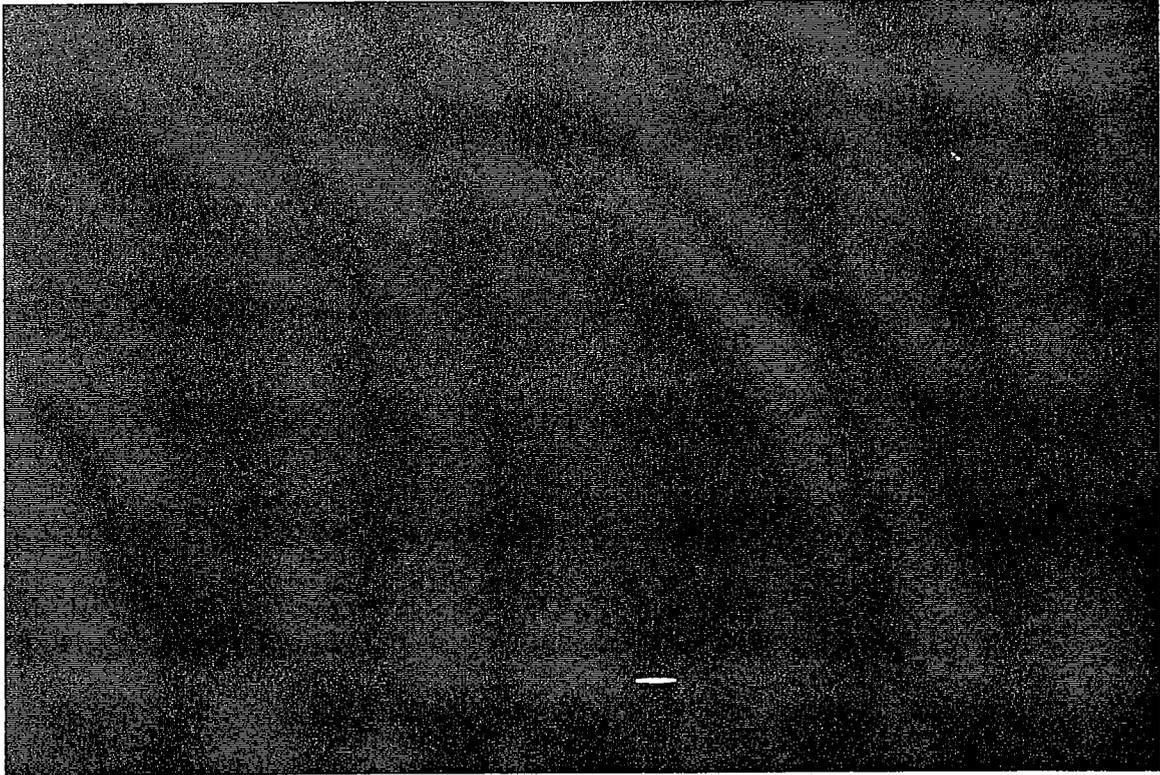
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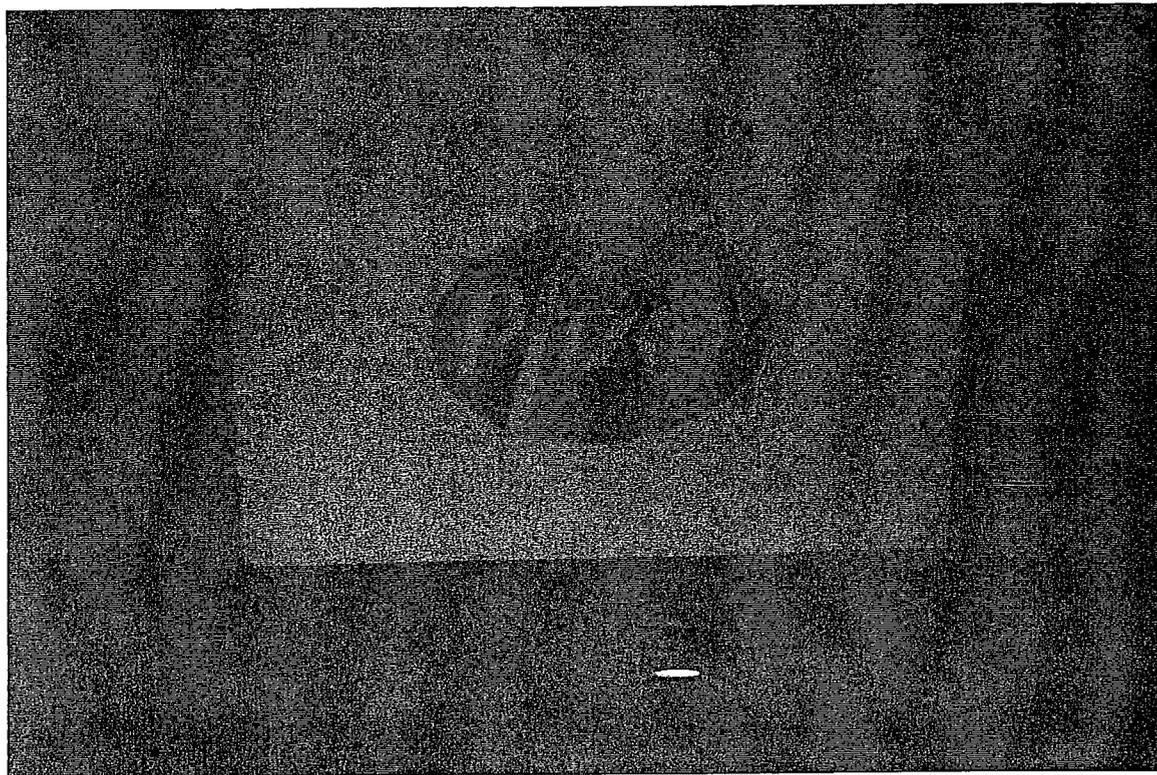
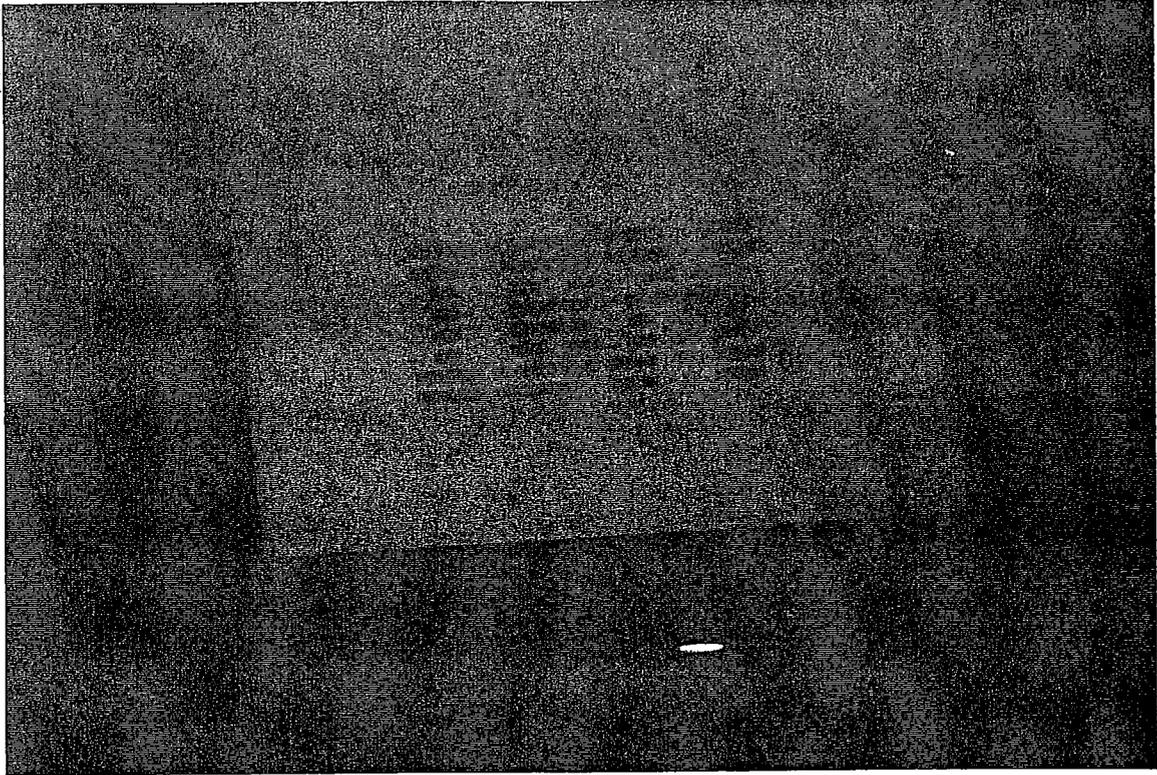
Exhibit 5

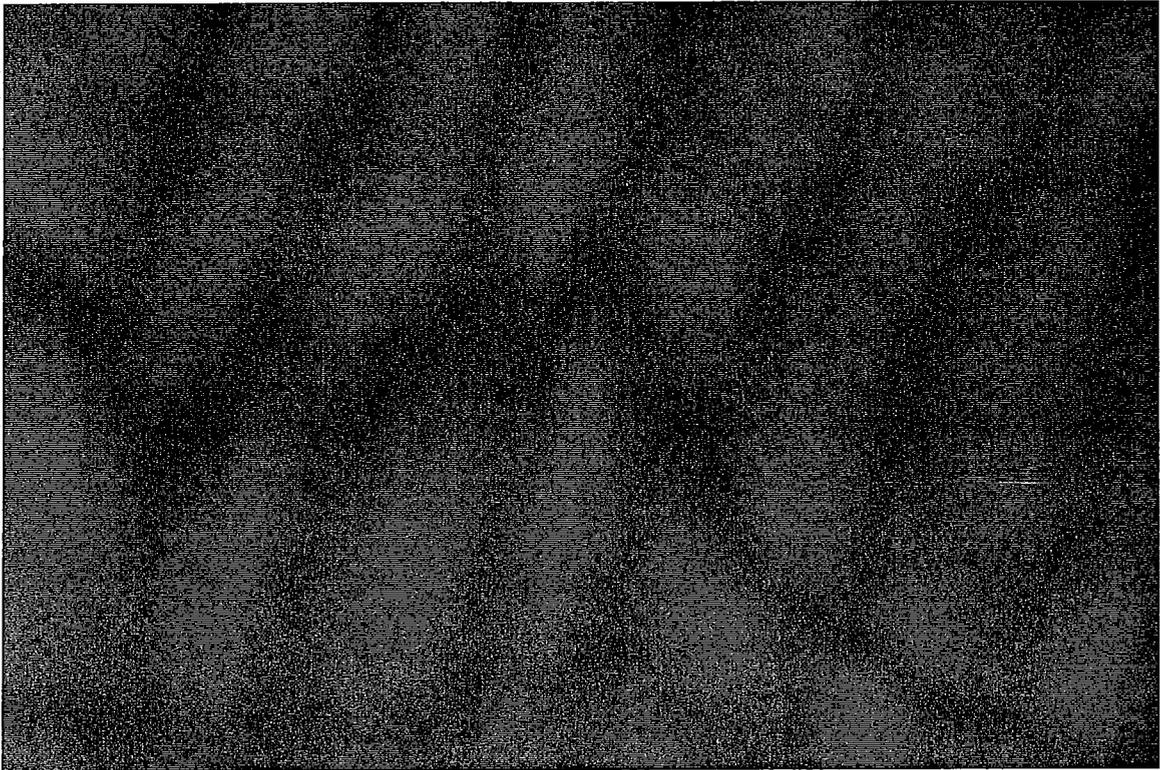
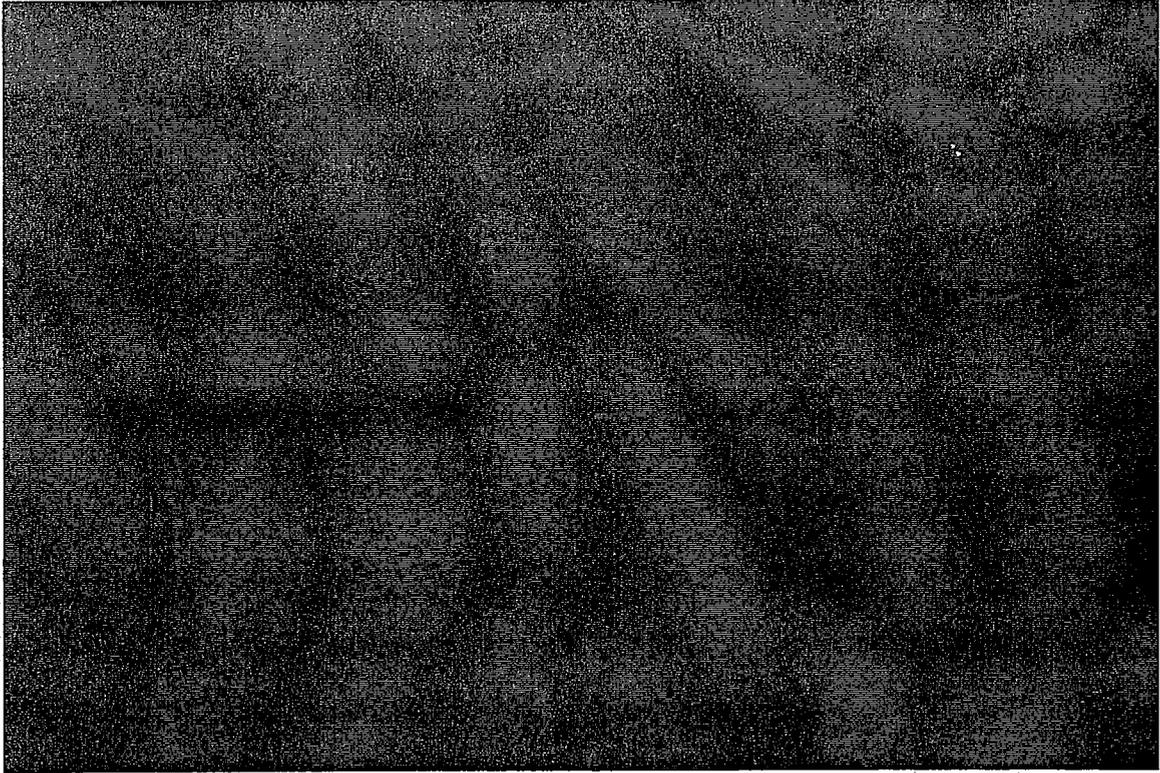


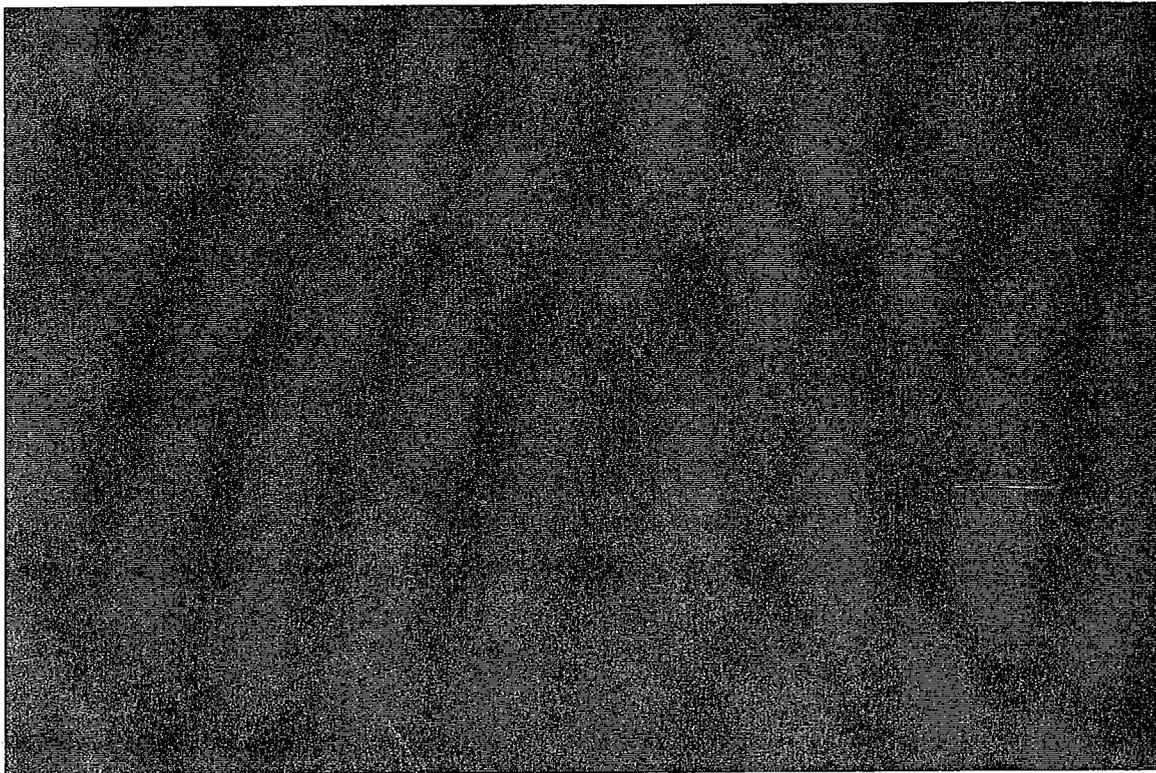
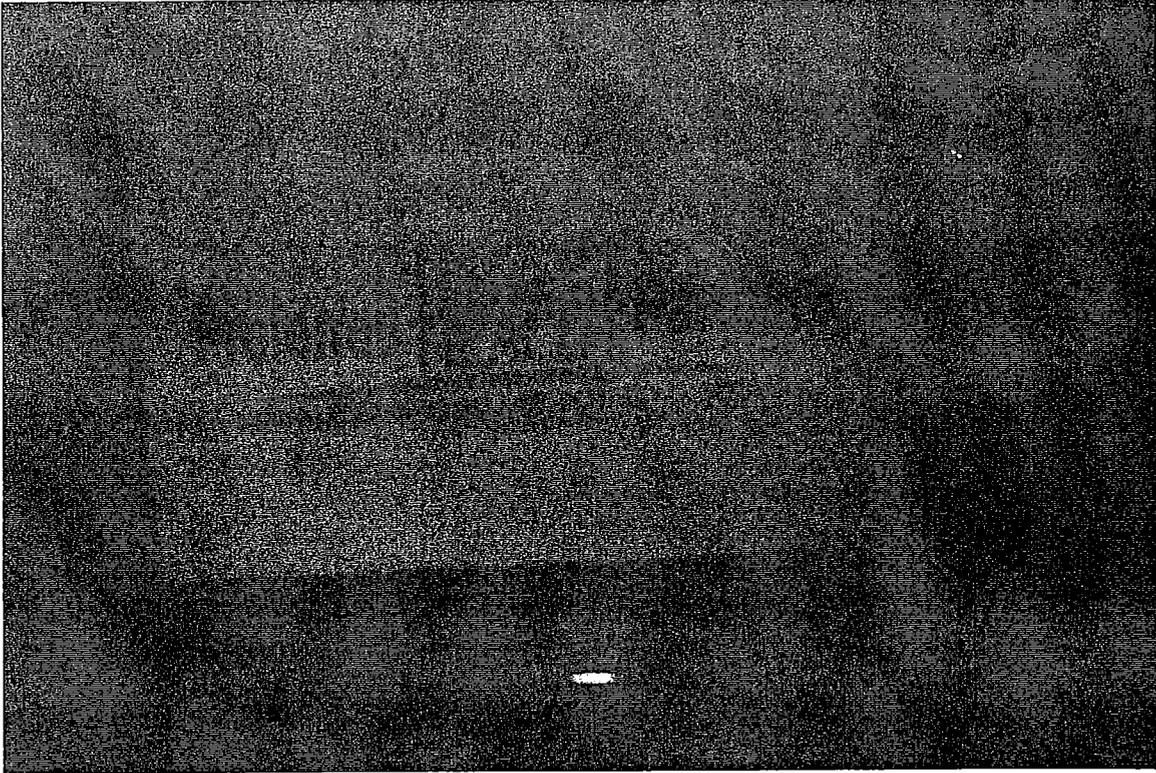












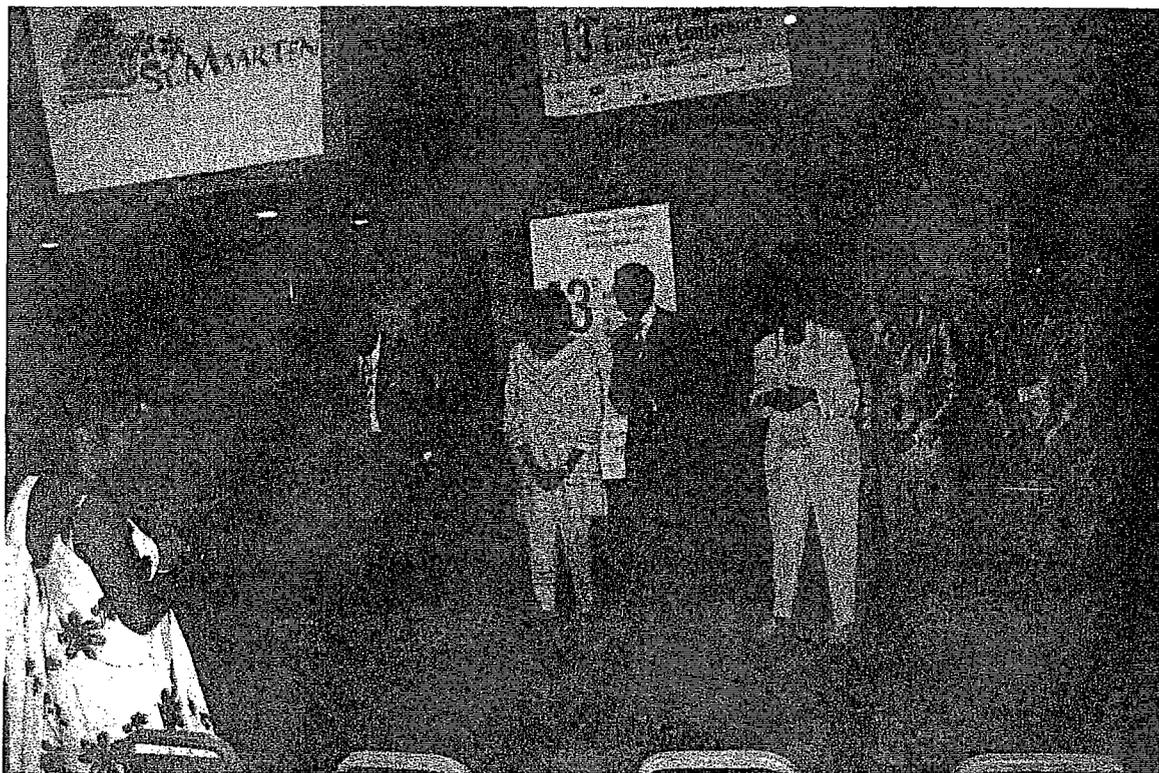
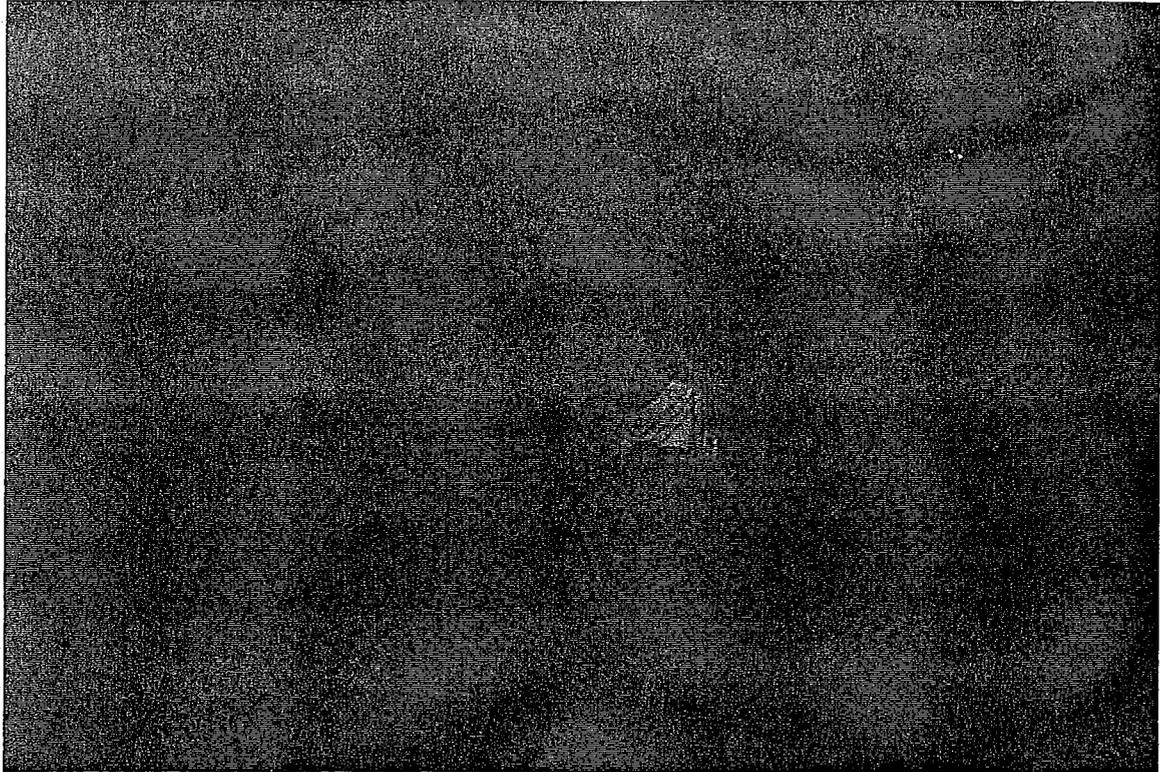


Exhibit 6

STROOCK

JOEL COHEN
DIRECT DIAL: 212-806-5644
DIRECT FAX: 212-806-2644
JCOHEN@STROOCK.COM

DANIELLE ALFONZO WALSMAN
DIRECT DIAL: 212-806-5607
DIRECT FAX: 212-806-2607
DWALSMAN@STROOCK.COM

May 18, 2009

BY EMAIL AND REGULAR MAIL

Mr. Leo Wise
Staff Director & Chief Counsel
Office of Congressional Ethics
United States House of Representatives
1017 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Request for Information, Review No. 09-2567

Dear Mr. Wise:

In response to your request for our clients' voluntary cooperation regarding your office's questions pertaining to the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference (the "Conference"), we submit the following responses. Based upon our review of the questions and our multiple conversations with your office, we believe that these responses contain the information that you are seeking. As with our previous production, to the extent that the Freedom of Information Act is applicable to any submissions made to the Office of Congressional Ethics, our clients hereby request that the information provided be treated confidentially.

The Host country participated in the Conference as follows: (1) developed local Host Committees to facilitate local planning, (2) helped to negotiate the rate with the hotel, (3) assisted in developing the theme of the Conference, (4) assisted in identifying local speakers, including the Leader of Government, (5) assisted in local publicity, (6) provided local entertainment, including a school choir and cultural items, (7) arranged Host Country Evening on Friday, November 8 (the group was transported to another property for refreshments and entertainment), (8) helped with local transportation for some Carib News employees and helped arrange accommodations for some guests (not paying for such accommodations), (9) participated

09-2222 0069

Leo Wise, Esq.
May 18, 2009
Page 2

as event Speakers, and (10) issued invitations to attend to specially invited guests. The Host Country provided no funds towards the cost of the Conference.

The cost for members of the public to attend the conference for the four days and three nights was \$840.00 for double occupancy or \$1085.00 for single occupancy. The cost of attendance covered room accommodations, meals, and admission to the Conference presentations.

The attending Members of Congress participated in sessions relevant to their Committee assignments in Congress and demonstrated interest in a particular subject matter. For example, Congressman Bennie Thompson spoke at presentations on Hemispheric Security and Immigration/ Deportees, Congresswoman Donna Christensen spoke at a Town Hall Forum on Health, and Congressman Charles Rangel spoke at presentations on Haiti and the Caribbean, and the current crises facing them. In addition, all of the Members of Congress participated in a session with the local Ministers of Government to discuss issues of interest to the Caribbean region. Though correspondence with the Members of Congress indicated that a memo of the Closed Door Session would be distributed after the Conference, no such memo was ever drafted or distributed.

The total cost of the Conference approached \$300,000. These costs included direct expenses such as travel, event planner fees, local staffing, and hotel payments, as well as Carib News operating expenses for the purpose of the preparation and implementation of the Conference. The Conference costs were paid using (1) registration fees by the attending guests, (2) contributions from corporate participants, some to Carib News and others to Carib News Foundation, and (3) general funds of Carib News. Each of three sources of funding was pooled together to pay the various expenses.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please do not hesitate to call.

Very truly yours,



Joel Cohen

and



Danielle Alfonzo Walsman

09-2222 0070

Exhibit 7

**AKIN GUMP
STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP**

Attorneys at Law

STEVEN R. ROSS
202.887.4343/fax: 202.887.4288
sross@akingump.com

March 31, 2009

Mr. Leo J. Wise
Staff Director and Chief Counsel
Office of Congressional Ethics
1017 Longworth Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Re: Citigroup, Inc. Production

Dear Leo:

On behalf of our client, Citigroup Inc., we are providing you with two documents in response to your oral request of March 17, 2009. Please find a copy of a solicitation letter to support the 2008 Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, dated April 4, 2008, from Carib News Foundation to our client. In addition, please find a copy of both the front and back of check number 5006611264, dated June 13, 2008, payable to Carib News Inc. in the amount of \$75,000.00. A search of our client's records has not uncovered any evidence of a receipt being provided for the above-mentioned check. We will produce this document should it be identified.

The documents we are producing today are confidential and proprietary in nature, and have been marked accordingly. We ask that these documents be kept confidential by your Office and your staff. Notwithstanding our request that these documents be kept confidential, due to their sensitivity, we ask that your office or staff provide us with notice and an opportunity to be heard before disclosure of any information from these documents to any third parties.

In addition, we are providing you with an original signed document of Michael Flanigan dated March 23, 2009, acknowledging the False Statements Act.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Ross

09-2222 0072



Privacy CitiGroup.com

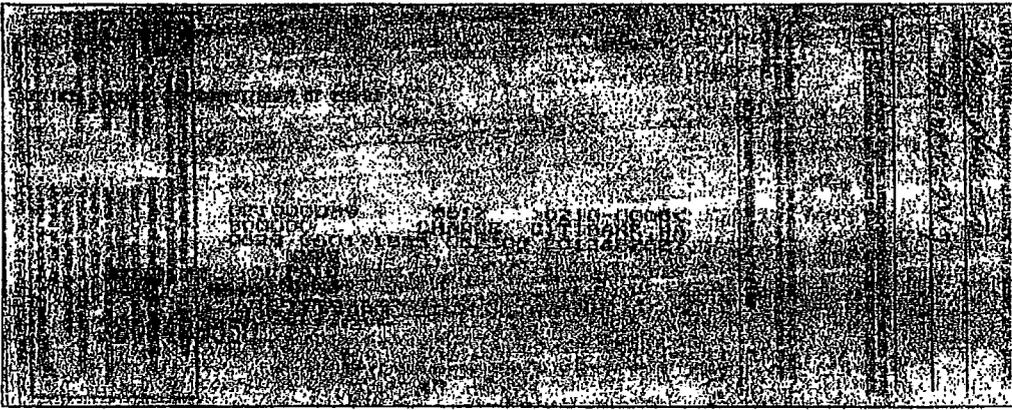
Citi Check Image Delivery

- Print
- Close Window
- Check Image Inquiry Results

Account #	Check #	Amount	Paid Date
00000038853877	5006611264	\$75,000.00	06/24/2008

<p>CITIGROUP BUSINESS SERVICES PAYMENT SERVICES 3RD CITIBANK CENTER DR. 0-3-1 TAMPA, FL 33610 CUSTOMER SERVICE (813) 803-1234</p>	<p>62-20 311</p>	<p>No. 5006611264 Date: 13-JUN-2008 Vendor No. 295513</p>
	<p>PAY TO THE ORDER OF CARIB NEWS INC 560171835 07 062308. CHARGE 7 WEST 36TH STREET 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK NY 10018</p>	
<p>SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS</p>		<p>Amount: 75,000.00 NOT VALID AFTER 180 DAYS</p>
<p>CITIBANK DELAWARE, A SUBSIDIARY OF CITIGROUP ONE PENNS WAY, NEWCASTLE, DE 19720</p>		
<p>⑆ 5006611264 ⑆ ⑆ 06230809 ⑆ 38853877 ⑆ ⑆ 0007500000 ⑆</p>		

Andrew Hammond





Carib News Foundation

7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018

Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089

E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

April 04, 2008

Mr. Eric Eve
Senior Vice President
Community Relations
Global Consumer Group
Citigroup Inc.
850 Third Avenue, 12th floor
New York, NY 10022

Dear Mr. Eve: *Eric*

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

Your support and that of *CITI* went a long way to make the Conference a success, and has fostered on-going growth in business achievements and impactful policy decisions. We appreciate your encouragement, your personal participation, and the very stature your presence brings to the Conference. We do get concrete results and expressed appreciation of new opportunities.

We can assure you that all the key stakeholders, Members of Congress, Heads and Ministers of Government, Elected Officials, Community and Business Leaders are all aware and appreciative of yours and *CITI'S* participation in this very important mission.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. We know of your interest to deepen the *CITI* local, regional and global connections, and I know the Conference can achieve that. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

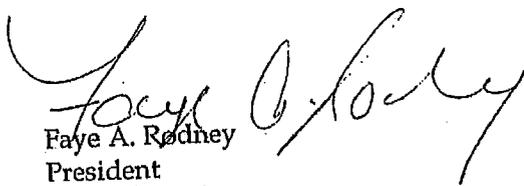
09-2222 0074

We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail.
I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

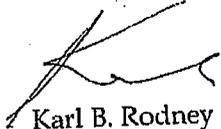
Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO



OPENING THE REGION

INVESTMENT & BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BUILDING THE GLOBAL NETWORK

**GOVERNMENT LEADERS - ELECTED OFFICIALS
IMPACTING ECONOMIC POLICIES**

PARTNERSHIPS

**CORPORATE EXECUTIVES - SEEKING
EXPANSION & GROWTH**

**DOING BUSINESS
TOGETHER**



“IMPACTFUL”

EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF THE



THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CARIBBEAN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

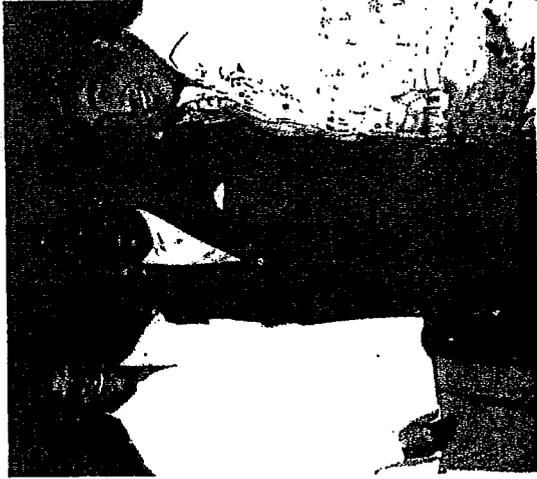
**ST. MAARTEN
NOVEMBER 6 - 9, 2008**

BUILDING KEY CONNECTIONS FOR GROWTH



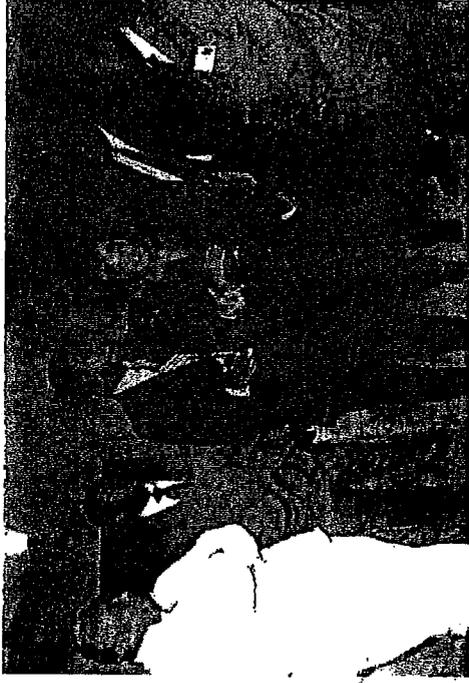
THE MISSION

- ◆ To bring together businesses, community, and government leaders interested in understanding the economic opportunities in the Caribbean marketplace locally and in the Caribbean.
- ◆ To make a global community among Diverse Business entities and The Caribbean.
- ◆ To Link the emerging markets of the U.S and the Developing Economics of the Caribbean and Latin America.

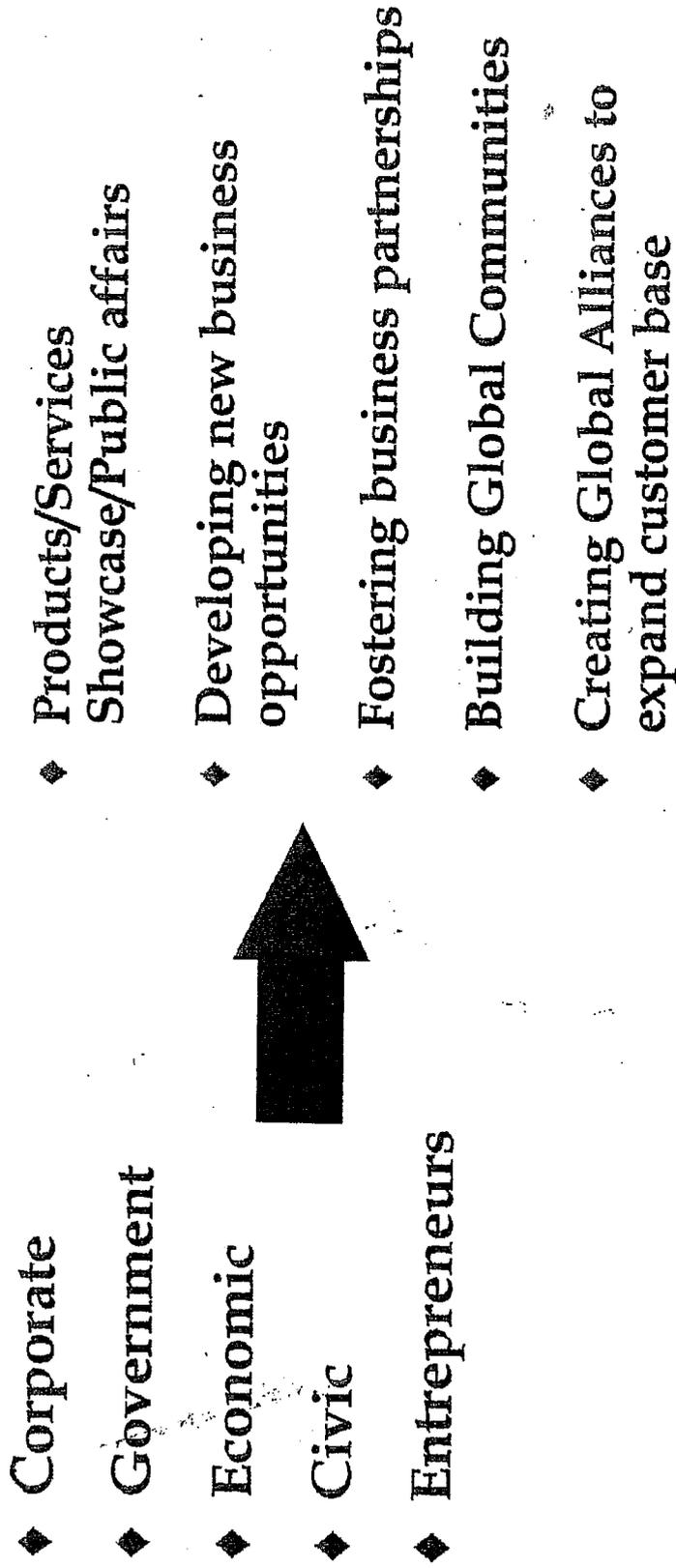


THE OPPORTUNITY

- ◆ **Marketing:** Understanding the market in the US and the Caribbean.
- ◆ **Business development:** Meeting potential customers and potential partners.
- ◆ **Strategic analysis:** Understanding the possibilities of emerging markets in the US and the Caribbean.
- ◆ **Corporate image:** Demonstrating your commitment to the Caribbean Community, and the program of diversity.
- ◆ **Community relations:** Establishing lasting relationships with key community leaders.
- ◆ **Government relations:** Meeting with and discussing topics of interest with significant elected officials from the US & the Caribbean.



STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS



THE FACTS

- ◆ 31.9 billion US dollars in foreign investment Came into the Caribbean, up 36 percent from 1996.
- ◆ Tourism is the key economic foundation in the Caribbean. Approximately 11 million cruise passengers a year visit the Caribbean, providing Import/Export Opportunities.
- ◆ The Caribbean, in aggregate, is the 10th largest export market for the U.S, surpassing France and other countries, and providing opportunities for marketplace products.
- ◆ The \$15 billion market of the Caribbean American community and overseas



THE LEGACY

- ♦ Jamaica - 1996
- ♦ Barbados - 1997
- ♦ St. Lucia - 1998
- ♦ St. Croix/USVI - 1999
- ♦ Jamaica - 2000
- ♦ Grenada - 2001
- ♦ St. Maarten - 2002
- ♦ The Bahamas-2003
- ♦ St. Kitts-Nevis-2004
- ♦ ST. Thomas, USVI - 2005
- ♦ Panama city, panama - 2006
- ♦ Antigua & Barbuda - 2007

- ♦ Building Consumers Awareness
- ♦ Developing Working Alliances
- ♦ Reaching Defined Target Markets
- ♦ Making the Right Connections
- ♦ Expanding Diverse Market Places
- ♦ Successful Joint/Ventures
- ♦ Successful Regional Investments



THE OVERVIEW

"Some companies have discovered that the Caribbean offers a great deal more than beautiful beaches and sunshine. They have recognized its tactical importance in this era of globalization. We are proud to provide a useful platform for companies that are seeking to sharpen their international competitiveness.

For the past twelve years, the Annual Multinational Business Conference has been creating links between the Caribbean, Central America and the U.S. Usually, during four days of workshops, luncheons and dinners, Caribbean Political Heads of State and Ministers of Government, Members of the Congressional Black Caucus, Local and Regional Politicians, business persons and influential individuals from the U.S. and the Caribbean discuss, interact and network around issues of mutual concern. Relationships are built and business deals are made.

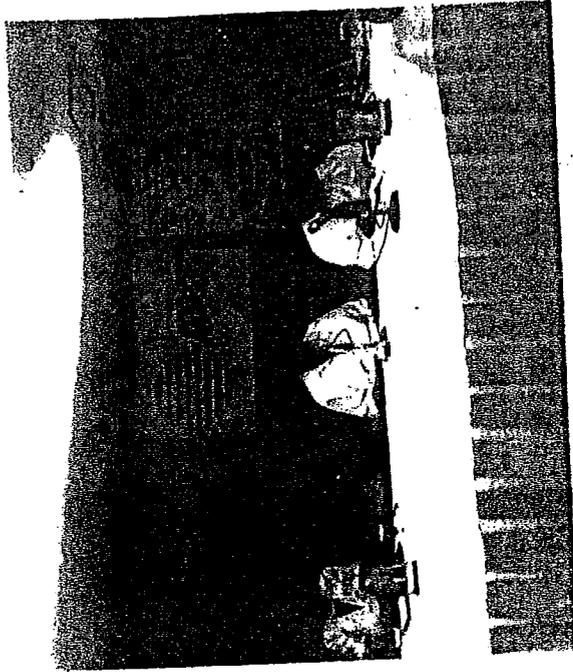
We hope that in 2008 you will join us"



PARTICIPATION

Platinum LEVEL - \$75,000

- ❖ Keynote Speaker at Main Event
- ❖ Sponsor Private VIP Reception and specially arranged forum
- ❖ Special Awards Presentation
- ❖ Display, Exhibition and signage
- ❖ Area of Conference -Reserved for exclusive sponsorship
- ❖ Full page Ad in program
- ❖ Air Transportation for 2 people
- ❖ Accommodations: One Suite and One Standard Room
- ❖ Included in all printed materials
- ❖ Included in Internet promotion
- ❖ Display company logo and link to our website
- ❖ Sponsor of a Gala Event
- ❖ Sponsor and Participate in a workshop
- ❖ Representative listed in program with bio and photo



PARTICIPATION

GOLD LEVEL - \$50,000

- ◆ Sponsor a Workshop
- ◆ Sponsor a Gala Event
- ◆ Display, Exhibition and signage
- ◆ Included in all Printed Material
- ◆ Included in all Internet Promotion
- ◆ Display of Company Logo and Link to Our Website
- ◆ Full Page Ad in Program
- ◆ Representation in the Brochure
- ◆ Air Transportation & room accommodations for 1



PARTICIPATION

SILVER LEVEL - \$25,000

- ◆ Sponsor & Participate in a Workshop
- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in all printed materials
- ◆ Included in Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Sponsor an event i.e. breakfast, lunch, or dinner
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in program with bio & photos
- ◆ Representatives listed in brochure



PARTICIPATION

SUPPORTER

\$15,000

- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in all printed materials
- ◆ Included in Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in brochure
- ◆ Representatives listed in program with bio & photo

\$10,000

- ◆ Display and Exhibition
- ◆ Banner in Public areas & at workshop
- ◆ Included in some printed materials
- ◆ Included in some Radio and TV Promotions
- ◆ Included in the internet promotion
- ◆ Full Page ad in program and 1/2 page in recap
- ◆ Representatives listed in program



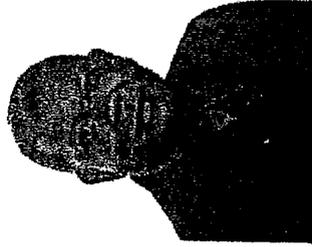
Government Participation



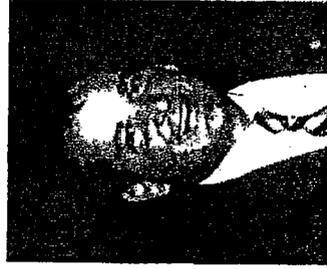
"This Conference is keeping us informed. There would never have been a banana problem had we (CBC) known about the issue before it went to the WTO."
Congressman Charles Rangel



"The conference is central to the promotion of our mutual interests in the U.S. in general, New York City in particular, and the Caribbean. It is essential for all of us to work together to spur economic growth and social expansion at home and in our neighborhoods."
William Thompson, Comptroller, New York City



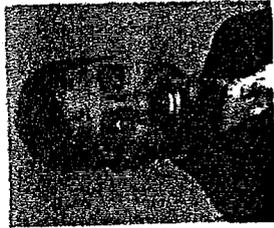
"The Conference in Antigua with Members of the U.S. Congress was very important and extremely vital to both the U.S. and Caribbean interests. It highlighted the need for the Caribbean to pay greater attention to the role of Congress in the formulation of U.S. policy".
*Hon. Baldwin Spencer
Prime Minister of Antigua*



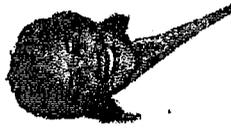
"The results of the Conference went far beyond our expectations. The process of bringing families together, of sharing a vision for our countries, couldn't have been scripted. The sessions brought out ideas, options and other benefits which should be long lasting".
Juan Carlos Navarro, Mayor, Panama City, Republic of Panama



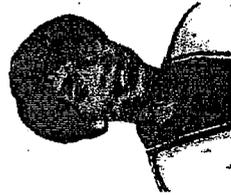
CORPORATE PARTICIPANTS



Eric Eve - SVP Community Relations, CITIGROUP. "The time is ripe for Caribbean nations to come together and get on "the road," to articulate the strength of their economies and stability of their business climates. The Conference is a great place to start to open clear lines of communication between the private and public sectors of the Caribbean and the U.S."



Marilyn Johnson, VP Market Development, IBM Corporation - "IBM and its partner ENI Enterprise Network, through its presentation at the Conference, is taking the audience up through levels of technology, understanding the application of E-commerce. This conference makes a difference in the lives of the attendees."



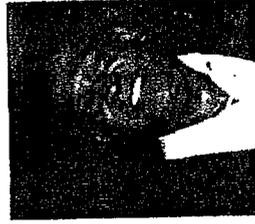
Karen Boykin-Towns, Senior Director of Public Affairs- "The conference provides an ideal opportunity for Pfizer - it demonstrates its commitment to health forums internationally, but also to network with key decision makers. Collaboration is necessary between the Caribbean to make improvements and adjustments to healthcare and its delivery."



Edward J. Goldberg, SVP Government & Consumer Affairs, MACY'S - "We have whole files of opportunities to build business partnerships in the current corporate environment. The conference is conducive to exploring new areas of business, and we have taken advantage of this to both the region and MACY's benefit."



Marie Long, VP Constituency Relations, AT&T Foundation - "As many of you know, AT&T has changed in the last 5 years. Its growth, dynamism and change have created what some of us call the new AT&T. The real and driving force behind our success as a corporate entity is the culture of inclusion and collaboration. We recognize the great work being done at the conference to improve business and personal lives, exchange ideas, and assist alternative strategies that could lead to technology transfer and to growth."



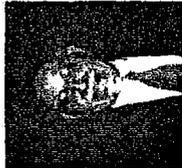
Javier Evans, FVP Human Resources, HSBC Bank - "We provide financial services to a vast array of businesses and individuals, and this gives us a unique perspective on different cultures and ways of doing business. We want to engage our partners in mutually beneficial relationships within our communities and that is why we seize the opportunity to link with CARIB NEWS and the Conference. It is a tremendous value to us."

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES



Ambassador Audrey Young

"If only the sons and daughters of Africa will remember from whence they came, then our roots should be a constant reminder of who we are and where our countries can go with our input. This is why the Carib News Conference is so important and that is why I support it."



Hon. Percy Sutton

"We badly needed a forum to address the need of us working together. This conference is an excellent idea and we should have been doing this long ago."



Hazel N. Dukes, President, New York State NAACP

"The conferences, presenters and participants have been extraordinary. I have gained tremendous knowledge on the Caribbean Diaspora. I continue to promote and foster relationships with communities here and at home"



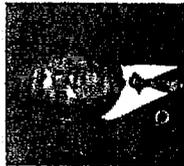
Harry Belafonte, Entertainer

"The Conference is like a table set with a feast of great ideas provided by some of the best minds. The table is set - it is for us to partake"



David Diukins, Former Mayor of New York City

"Education is the very key for the development of our people. I have always held that position; that is why I am so pleased to participate in the Education Forum at the Conference. There is an eagerness on the part of the audience to know more about our system. The collaborative effort of CARIB NEWS and the Conference wins my support".



Roy Hastick, President/CEO Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce

"The work of the Conference is legendary in the Caribbean and the U.S. Where else do you find this level of leadership from all sectors coming together to advance doing business. It is the most effective way of building a Global Network".



Susan Taylor, Editor Emeritus, Essence Magazine

"It is always so wonderful to experience the drive, enthusiasm and determination of the Conference participants. It says something wonderful is happening and we all need to tap into it. It provides such outstanding opportunities to connect with real people who can make things happen".

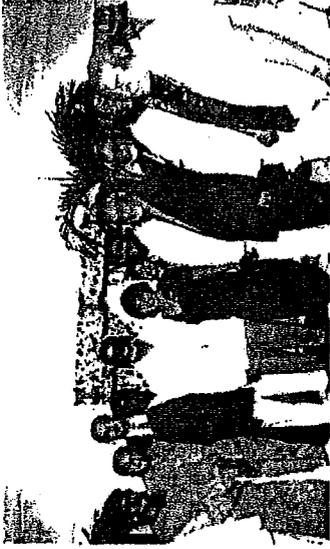
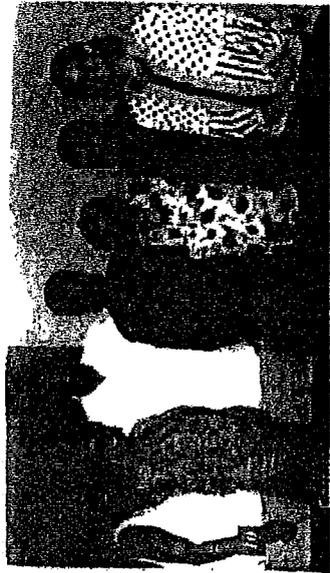


Lloyd Williams, President/CEO Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce

"I have always advocated cross-border business opportunities for the Chamber members, and that is why for the entire twelve years of the conference, the Chamber has made it a priority event. Our members have reaped the benefits and have also made great contributions".



INVEST IN SUCCESS



**A WEEK-END THAT CHANGES
LIVES**

'EXPERIENCE THE POWER'



Exhibit 8

Board
David Skaggs, Chair Porter Goss, Co-Chair
Yvonne Burke Jay Eagen
Karan English William Frenzel
Allison Hayward Abner Mikva



Leo J. Wise, Staff Director & Chief Counsel
1017 Longworth House Office Building
(202) 225-9739
(202) 226-0997 fax
email address: oce@mail.house.gov
website address: oce.house.gov

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

Mr. Frank Weber
Internal Revenue Service
Freedom of Information Reading Room
1111 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20224

March 31, 2009

Dear Mr. Weber,

Thank you for talking with me this afternoon and for offering to help me with this request. I need to know if Carib News Charities filed a 990-PF for tax years 2006, 2007, and 2008 (I have included tax year 2008 in the event that the foundation filed before the filing deadline). I understand that the organization is not required to file if it did not receive donations in excess of \$25,000. If the foundation has filed a 990-PF for 2006, 2007, or 2008, we would like to have a copy of the tax form(s). In the event that it takes several days, weeks, or months to receive the requested copies, it would be helpful to have an answer to the question whether the organization has filed and for what year(s) tax form(s) exist.

It is our understanding that the organization also does business as Carib News Foundation; however, Carib News Foundation is not found in Publication 78.

My telephone number is 202-225-9739 and my email is Elizabeth.horton@mail.house.gov. Thank you again for your help with this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Horton".

Elizabeth Horton

Form **4506-A**

(Rev. January 2009)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Request for Public Inspection or Copy of Exempt or Political Organization IRS Form

OMB No. 1545-0495

Type or print clearly. Request may be rejected if the form is incomplete or illegible.



You may not have to complete Form 4506-A to get the copies you need.

- Internet. Form 8871, Political Organization Notice of Section 527 Status, and Form 8872, Political Organization Report of Contributions and Expenditures, are available for inspection and printing from the Internet. The website address for both forms is www.irs.gov/polorgs.
- Public disclosure by the organization. Exempt or political organizations must make their returns, reports, notices, and exempt applications available for public inspection. You can visit the organization to inspect the material instead of requesting it from the IRS. The organization may be able to mail the copies to you.

1 Exempt or political organization. If a multiple request, please attach list of names, forms, and tax years.

Name CARIB NEWS CHARITIES	Employer identification number (if known) 13 : 3632050
Address 7 WEST 36th STREET, FLOOR 8	
City or town, state, and ZIP code NEW YORK, NY 10018	

2 Requester

Name OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS	Contact person ELIZABETH HORTON
Address 1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING	Phone (202) 225-9739
City or town, state, and ZIP code WASHINGTON, DC 20515	Date 3/31/09

- 3 Category of requester:** Commercial user Non-commercial scientific institution
 You must check a box. Educational institution Media All others

4 Reason for request. All requesters except for commercial users must provide an explanation of how the records will be used to avoid being charged the commercial rate. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

TO CONFIRM WHETHER FOUNDATION RECEIVED FUNDING IN TAX YEARS 2006, 2007, 2008

Lines 5-9. For each applicable form, check the box(es) for the item(s) you are requesting. You may request more than one form. For each form requested, check either the copy, inspection, or CD/DVD box and enter the specific tax year(s), as indicated. If ordering a partial set on CD/DVD, indicate the format, state(s), and month(s) requested.

5 Form 990, Form 990-EZ CD/DVD Format: Alchemy Raw
 Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: _____; _____; _____
 State(s): _____; _____; _____
 Months: _____; _____; _____

6 Form 990-PF CD/DVD Format: Alchemy Raw
 Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: **2006, 2007, 2008 (if filed)**
 State(s): _____; _____; _____
 Months: _____; _____; _____

7 Form 990-T (501(c)(3) organizations filed after 8/17/2006) CD/DVD Format: Alchemy Raw
 Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: _____; _____; _____
 State(s): _____; _____; _____
 Months: _____; _____; _____

8 Form 5227 Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: _____; _____; _____

9 Form 1023, 1024 or Determination Letter Copy Inspection
 Tax year(s) requested: _____; _____; _____

IRS Use Only

The form requested above was inspected by (name of requester)	IRS office where inspection was made
Signature of employee present at inspection	Date

For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Cat. No. 41722P

Form **4506-A** (Rev. 1-2009)

OGDEN UT 84201-0058

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
ATTN: ELIZABETH HORTON
1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515

CUT OUT AND RETURN THE VOUCHER AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE IF YOU ARE MAKING A PAYMENT,
EVEN IF YOU ALSO HAVE AN INQUIRY.

The IRS address must appear in the window:

BODCD-TE

0412606945

Use for payments

Letter Number : LTR39B3C
Letter Date : 2009-04-17
Tax Period : 000000

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

OGDEN UT 84201-0058



133632050

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
ATTN: ELIZABETH HORTON
1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515

OGDEN UT 84201-0058

In reply refer to: 0412606945
Apr. 17, 2009 LTR 3983C E1
13-3632050 000000 00 000
00027842
BODC: TE

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
ATTN: ELIZABETH HORTON
1017 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515

Taxpayer Identification Number: 13-3632050
Organization: Carib News Charities, Inc.

Form(s): 990PF

Tax Period(s): May 31, 2006 May 31, 2007
May 31, 2008

Dear Requester:

We received your Mar. 31, 2009, request for a copy of the Form(s) 990PF relating to the organization(s) identified above. Enclosed is a copy of the form(s) you requested. We are unable to provide a copy of the form(s) requested for the following tax period(s):

May 31, 2006

We regret that we can not provide a photocopy of return(s) for the organization(s) and year(s) you requested. There are a variety of reasons why these returns are not available, for example:

- the organization may not be required to file the requested return because its gross receipts are \$25,000 or less.
- the organization may be included in a group ruling and the parent may have filed a group return.
- the organization may have received an extension of time to file.
- processing of the organization's return may not be complete.
- return(s) are destroyed after a certain number of tax years.
- the organization may not be required to file.

If you have any questions, please write us at the address shown at the top of the first page of this letter. Or, you may call us toll free at 1-877-829-5500.

Whenever you write, please include this letter and, in the spaces below, give us your telephone number with the hours we can reach you. Please keep a copy of this letter for your records.

Telephone Number () _____ Hours _____

Form **990-PF**

Return of Private Foundation
or Section 4947(a)(1) Nonexempt Charitable Trust
Treated as a Private Foundation

OMB No 1545-0052

2005

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Note: The organization may be able to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements

For calendar year 2005, or tax year beginning **June 1**, 2005, and ending **May 31**, 20 **06**

G Check all that apply. Initial return Final return Amended return Address change Name change

Use the IRS label. Otherwise, print or type. See Specific Instructions.	Name of organization Carib News Charities Inc		A Employer identification number 13 3632050
	Number and street (or PO box number if mail is not delivered to street address) 15 West 39th Street	Room/suite 13	B Telephone number (see page 10 of the instructions) ()
	City or town, state, and ZIP code New York, NY 10018		C If exemption application is pending, check here <input type="checkbox"/>
H Check type of organization: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Section 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation <input type="checkbox"/> Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust <input type="checkbox"/> Other taxable private foundation		D 1. Foreign organizations, check here <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Foreign organizations meeting the 85% test, check here and attach computation <input type="checkbox"/>	
I Fair market value of all assets at end of year (from Part II, col. (c), line 16) \$		E If private foundation status was terminated under section 507(b)(1)(A), check here <input type="checkbox"/>	
J Accounting method: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ (Part I, column (d) must be on cash basis)		F If the foundation is in a 60-month termination under section 507(b)(1)(B), check here <input type="checkbox"/>	

Part I Analysis of Revenue and Expenses (The total of amounts in columns (b), (c), and (d) may not necessarily equal the amounts in column (a) (see page 11 of the instructions))		(a) Revenue and expenses per books	(b) Net investment income	(c) Adjusted net income	(d) Disbursements for charitable purposes (cash basis only)
Revenue	1 Contributions, gifts, grants, etc., received (attach schedule)	0			
	2 Check <input type="checkbox"/> if the foundation is not required to attach Sch B				
	3 Interest on savings and temporary cash investments				
	4 Dividends and interest from securities				
	5a Gross rents				
	b Net rental income or (loss)				
	6a Net gain or (loss) from sale of assets not on line 10				
	b Gross sales price for all assets on line 6a				
	7 Capital gain net income (from Part IV, line 2)				
	8 Net short-term capital gain				
	9 Income modifications				
	10a Gross sales less returns and allowances				
b Less: Cost of goods sold					
c Gross profit or (loss) (attach schedule)					
11 Other income (attach schedule)					
12 Total. Add lines 1 through 11					
Operating and Administrative Expenses	13 Compensation of officers, directors, trustees, etc				
	14 Other employee salaries and wages				
	15 Pension plans, employee benefits				
	16a Legal fees (attach schedule)				
	b Accounting fees (attach schedule)				
	c Other professional fees (attach schedule)				
	17 Interest				
	18 Taxes (attach schedule) (see page 14 of the instructions)				
	19 Depreciation (attach schedule) and depletion				
	20 Occupancy				
	21 Travel, conferences, and meetings				
	22 Printing and publications				
	23 Other expenses (attach schedule)				
	24 Total operating and administrative expenses. Add lines 13 through 23				
	25 Contributions, gifts, grants paid				
26 Total expenses and disbursements. Add lines 24 and 25					
27 Subtract line 26 from line 12:					
a Excess of revenue over expenses and disbursements	0				
b Net investment income (if negative, enter -0-)					
c Adjusted net income (if negative, enter -0-)					

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OGDEN, UTAH

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Cat No 11289X

Form 990-PF (2005)

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Part II Balance Sheets		Attached schedules and amounts in the description column should be for end-of-year amounts only (See instructions)		
		Beginning of year (a) Book Value	End of year (b) Book Value (c) Fair Market Value	
Assets	1	Cash—non-interest-bearing	0	0
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments		
	3	Accounts receivable		
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts		
	4	Pledges receivable		
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts		
	5	Grants receivable		
	6	Receivables due from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons (attach schedule) (see page 15 of the instructions)		
	7	Other notes and loans receivable (attach schedule)		
		Less allowance for doubtful accounts		
	8	Inventories for sale or use		
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges		
	10a	Investments—U S and state government obligations (attach schedule)		
	b	Investments—corporate stock (attach schedule)		
	c	Investments—corporate bonds (attach schedule)		
	11	Investments—land, buildings, and equipment basis		
	Less accumulated depreciation (attach schedule)			
12	Investments—mortgage loans			
13	Investments—other (attach schedule)			
14	Land, buildings, and equipment basis			
	Less accumulated depreciation (attach schedule)			
15	Other assets (describe)			
16	Total assets (to be completed by all filers—see page 16 of the instructions. Also, see page 1, item I)			
Liabilities	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses	0	0
	18	Grants payable		
	19	Deferred revenue		
	20	Loans from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons		
	21	Mortgages and other notes payable (attach schedule)		
	22	Other liabilities (describe)		
23	Total liabilities (add lines 17 through 22)			
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 24 through 26 and lines 30 and 31.			
	24	Unrestricted		
	25	Temporarily restricted		
	26	Permanently restricted		
	Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 31.			
	27	Capital stock, trust principal, or current funds		
	28	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, bldg., and equipment fund		
	29	Retained earnings, accumulated income, endowment, or other funds		
30	Total net assets or fund balances (see page 17 of the instructions)	0	0	
31	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances (see page 17 of the instructions)	0	0	

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Part III Analysis of Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances

1	Total net assets or fund balances at beginning of year—Part II, column (a), line 30 (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	1	0
2	Enter amount from Part I, line 27a	2	
3	Other increases not included in line 2 (itemize)	3	
4	Add lines 1, 2, and 3	4	
5	Decreases not included in line 2 (itemize)	5	
6	Total net assets or fund balances at end of year (line 4 minus line 5)—Part II, column (b), line 30	6	

Part IV Capital Gains and Losses for Tax on Investment Income

(a) List and describe the kind(s) of property sold (e.g., real estate, 2-story brick warehouse, or common stock, 200 shs MLC Co)		(b) How acquired P—Purchase D—Donation	(c) Date acquired (mo., day, yr)	(d) Date sold (mo., day, yr)
1a				
b				
c				
d				
e				

(e) Gross sales price	(f) Depreciation allowed (or allowable)	(g) Cost or other basis plus expense of sale	(h) Gain or (loss) - (e) plus (f) minus (g)
a			
b			
c			
d			
e			

Complete only for assets showing gain in column (h) and owned by the foundation on 12/31/69

(i) F M V as of 12/31/69	(j) Adjusted basis as of 12/31/69	(k) Excess of col (i) over col (j), if any	(l) Gains (Col (h) gain minus col (k), but not less than -0-) or Losses (from col (h))
a			
b			
c			
d			
e			

2 Capital gain net income or (net capital loss) { If gain, also enter in Part I, line 7
If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 7 } 2

3 Net short-term capital gain or (loss) as defined in sections 1222(5) and (6).
If gain, also enter in Part I, line 8, column (c) (see pages 13 and 17 of the instructions).
If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 8. 3

Part V Qualification Under Section 4940(e) for Reduced Tax on Net Investment Income

(For optional use by domestic private foundations subject to the section 4940(a) tax on net investment income.)

If section 4940(d)(2) applies, leave this part blank.

Was the organization liable for the section 4942 tax on the distributable amount of any year in the base period? Yes No
If "Yes," the organization does not qualify under section 4940(e). Do not complete this part.

1 Enter the appropriate amount in each column for each year; see page 18 of the instructions before making any entries.

(a) Base period years Calendar year (or tax year beginning in)	(b) Adjusted qualifying distributions	(c) Net value of noncharitable-use assets	(d) Distribution ratio (col (b) divided by col (c))
2004			
2003			
2002			
2001			
2000			

2 Total of line 1, column (d)	2
3 Average distribution ratio for the 5-year base period—divide the total on line 2 by 5, or by the number of years the foundation has been in existence if less than 5 years	3
4 Enter the net value of noncharitable-use assets for 2005 from Part X, line 5	4
5 Multiply line 4 by line 3	5
6 Enter 1% of net investment income (1% of Part I, line 27b)	6
7 Add lines 5 and 6	7
8 Enter qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 If line 8 is equal to or greater than line 7, check the box in Part VI, line 1b, and complete that part using a 1% tax rate. See the Part VI instructions on page 18.	8

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Page 4

Part VII Excise Tax Based on Investment Income (Section 4940(a), 4940(b), 4940(e), or 4948—see page 18 of the instructions)

1a	Exempt operating foundations described in section 4940(d)(2), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter "N/A" on line 1. Date of ruling letter: (attach copy of ruling letter if necessary—see instructions)			
b	Domestic organizations that meet the section 4940(e) requirements in Part V, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter 1% of Part I, line 27b.	1		
c	All other domestic organizations enter 2% of line 27b. Exempt foreign organizations enter 4% of Part I, line 12, col (b).			
2	Tax under section 511 (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-)	2		
3	Add lines 1 and 2.	3		
4	Subtitle A (income) tax (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-)	4		
5	Tax based on investment income. Subtract line 4 from line 3. If zero or less, enter -0-	5		
6	Credits/Payments.			
a	2005 estimated tax payments and 2004 overpayment credited to 2005	6a		
b	Exempt foreign organizations—tax withheld at source	6b		
c	Tax paid with application for extension of time to file (Form 8868)	6c		
d	Backup withholding erroneously withheld.	6d		
7	Total credits and payments. Add lines 6a through 6d.	7		
8	Enter any penalty for underpayment of estimated tax. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if Form 2220 is attached.	8		
9	Tax due. If the total of lines 5 and 8 is more than line 7, enter amount owed	9		
10	Overpayment. If line 7 is more than the total of lines 5 and 8, enter the amount overpaid.	10		
11	Enter the amount of line 10 to be Credited to 2005 estimated tax <input type="checkbox"/> Refunded <input type="checkbox"/>	11		

Part VIII Statements Regarding Activities

	Yes	No
1a		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1b		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1c		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4a		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4b		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8b		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

12 The books are in care of _____ Telephone no. _____
Located at _____ ZIP+4 _____

13 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-PF in lieu of Form 1041—Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year _____

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Part VII B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required

File Form 4720 if any item is checked in the "Yes" column, unless an exception applies.

1a During the year did the organization (either directly or indirectly):
(1) Engage in the sale or exchange, or leasing of property with a disqualified person?
(2) Borrow money from, lend money to, or otherwise extend credit to (or accept it from) a disqualified person?
(3) Furnish goods, services, or facilities to (or accept them from) a disqualified person?
(4) Pay compensation to, or pay or reimburse the expenses of, a disqualified person?
(5) Transfer any income or assets to a disqualified person (or make any of either available for the benefit or use of a disqualified person)?
(6) Agree to pay money or property to a government official?
1b If any answer is "Yes" to 1a(1)-(6), did any of the acts fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4941(d)-3 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see page 20 of the instructions)?
1c Did the organization engage in a prior year in any of the acts described in 1a, other than excepted acts, that were not corrected before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2005?
2 Taxes on failure to distribute income (section 4942) (does not apply for years the organization was a private operating foundation defined in section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5)):
2a At the end of tax year 2005, did the organization have any undistributed income (lines 6d and 6e, Part XIII) for tax year(s) beginning before 2005?
2b Are there any years listed in 2a for which the organization is not applying the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) (relating to incorrect valuation of assets) to the year's undistributed income?
2c If the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) are being applied to any of the years listed in 2a, list the years here.
3a Did the organization hold more than a 2% direct or indirect interest in any business enterprise at any time during the year?
3b If "Yes," did it have excess business holdings in 2005 as a result of (1) any purchase by the organization or disqualified persons after May 26, 1969; (2) the lapse of the 5-year period (or longer period approved by the Commissioner under section 4943(c)(7)) to dispose of holdings acquired by gift or bequest; or (3) the lapse of the 10-, 15-, or 20-year first phase holding period?
4a Did the organization invest during the year any amount in a manner that would jeopardize its charitable purposes?
4b Did the organization make any investment in a prior year (but after December 31, 1969) that could jeopardize its charitable purpose that had not been removed from jeopardy before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2005?
5a During the year did the organization pay or incur any amount to:
(1) Carry on propaganda, or otherwise attempt to influence legislation (section 4945(e))?
(2) Influence the outcome of any specific public election (see section 4955); or to carry on, directly or indirectly, any voter registration drive?
(3) Provide a grant to an individual for travel, study, or other similar purposes?
(4) Provide a grant to an organization other than a charitable, etc., organization described in section 509(a)(1), (2), or (3), or section 4940(d)(2)?
(5) Provide for any purpose other than religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals?
5b If any answer is "Yes" to 5a(1)-(5), did any of the transactions fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4945 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see page 20 of the instructions)?
5c If the answer is "Yes" to question 5a(4), does the organization claim exemption from the tax because it maintained expenditure responsibility for the grant?
6a Did the organization, during the year, receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?
6b Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?
If you answered "Yes" to 6b, also file Form 8870

Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors

1 List all officers, directors, trustees, foundation managers and their compensation (see page 21 of the instructions).

(a) Name and address	(b) Title, and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				

2 Compensation of five highest-paid employees (other than those included on line 1—see page 21 of the instructions). If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$50,000	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
NONE				
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				

Total number of other employees paid over \$50,000. ▶

3 Five highest-paid independent contractors for professional services—(see page 21 of the instructions). If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each person paid more than \$50,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
NONE		
.....		
.....		
.....		
.....		
.....		

Total number of others receiving over \$50,000 for professional services ▶

Part IX-A Summary of Direct Charitable Activities

List the foundation's four largest direct charitable activities during the tax year. Include relevant statistical information such as the number of organizations and other beneficiaries served, conferences convened, research papers produced, etc.	Expenses
1 None	
2	
3	
4	

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Page 7

Part IX Summary of Program-Related Investments (see page 22 of the instructions)

Describe the two largest program-related investments made by the foundation during the tax year on lines 1 and 2		Amount
1	
2	
All other program-related investments See page 22 of the instructions		
3	
Total. Add lines 1 through 3		

Part X Minimum Investment Return (All domestic foundations must complete this part. Foreign foundations, see page 22 of the instructions.)

1	Fair market value of assets not used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes:		
a	Average monthly fair market value of securities	1a	
b	Average of monthly cash balances	1b	
c	Fair market value of all other assets (see page 23 of the instructions)	1c	
d	Total (add lines 1a, b, and c)	1d	
e	Reduction claimed for blockage or other factors reported on lines 1a and 1c (attach detailed explanation)	1e	
2	Acquisition indebtedness applicable to line 1 assets	2	
3	Subtract line 2 from line 1d	3	
4	Cash deemed held for charitable activities. Enter 1½% of line 3 (for greater amount, see page 23 of the instructions)	4	
5	Net value of noncharitable-use assets. Subtract line 4 from line 3. Enter here and on Part V, line 4	5	
6	Minimum investment return. Enter 5% of line 5	6	

Part XI Distributable Amount (see page 23 of the instructions) (Section 4942(j)(3) and (j)(5) private operating foundations and certain foreign organizations check here and do not complete this part.)

1	Minimum investment return from Part X, line 6	1	
2a	Tax on investment income for 2005 from Part VI, line 5	2a	
b	Income tax for 2005. (This does not include the tax from Part VI.)	2b	
c	Add lines 2a and 2b	2c	
3	Distributable amount before adjustments Subtract line 2c from line 1	3	
4	Recoveries of amounts treated as qualifying distributions	4	
5	Add lines 3 and 4	5	
6	Deduction from distributable amount (see page 24 of the instructions)	6	
7	Distributable amount as adjusted. Subtract line 6 from line 5. Enter here and on Part XIII, line 1	7	

Part XII Qualifying Distributions (see page 24 of the instructions)

1	Amounts paid (including administrative expenses) to accomplish charitable, etc., purposes:	
a	Expenses, contributions, gifts, etc.—total from Part I, column (d), line 26	1a
b	Program-related investments—total from Part IX-B	1b
2	Amounts paid to acquire assets used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes	2
3	Amounts set aside for specific charitable projects that satisfy the:	
a	Suitability test (prior IRS approval required)	3a
b	Cash distribution test (attach the required schedule)	3b
4	Qualifying distributions. Add lines 1a through 3b. Enter here and on Part V, line 8, and Part XIII, line 4	4
5	Organizations that qualify under section 4940(e) for the reduced rate of tax on net investment income. Enter 1% of Part I, line 27b (see page 24 of the instructions)	5
6	Adjusted qualifying distributions. Subtract line 5 from line 4	6

Note: The amount on line 6 will be used in Part V, column (b), in subsequent years when calculating whether the foundation qualifies for the section 4940(e) reduction of tax in those years.

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Part XIII Undistributed Income (see page 24 of the instructions)

	(a) Corpus	(b) Years prior to 2004	(c) 2004	(d) 2005
1 Distributable amount for 2005 from Part XI, line 7				
2 Undistributed income, if any, as of the end of 2004:				
a Enter amount for 2004 only				
b Total for prior years: 20____, 20____, 20____				
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2005:				
a From 2000				
b From 2001				
c From 2002				
d From 2003				
e From 2004				
f Total of lines 3a through e				
4 Qualifying distributions for 2005 from Part XII, line 4: ▶ \$ _____				
a Applied to 2004, but not more than line 2a				
b Applied to undistributed income of prior years (Election required—see page 25 of the instructions)				
c Treated as distributions out of corpus (Election required—see page 25 of the instructions)				
d Applied to 2005 distributable amount				
e Remaining amount distributed out of corpus				
5 Excess distributions carryover applied to 2005 (If an amount appears in column (d), the same amount must be shown in column (a).)				
6 Enter the net total of each column as indicated below:				
a Corpus. Add lines 3f, 4c, and 4e. Subtract line 5				
b Prior years' undistributed income. Subtract line 4b from line 2b				
c Enter the amount of prior years' undistributed income for which a notice of deficiency has been issued, or on which the section 4942(a) tax has been previously assessed				
d Subtract line 6c from line 6b. Taxable amount—see page 25 of the instructions				
e Undistributed income for 2004. Subtract line 4a from line 2a. Taxable amount—see page 25 of the instructions				
f Undistributed income for 2005. Subtract lines 4d and 5 from line 1. This amount must be distributed in 2006				
7 Amounts treated as distributions out of corpus to satisfy requirements imposed by section 170(b)(1)(E) or 4942(p)(3) (see page 25 of the instructions)				
8 Excess distributions carryover from 2000 not applied on line 5 or line 7 (see page 25 of the instructions)				
9 Excess distributions carryover to 2006. Subtract lines 7 and 8 from line 6a				
10 Analysis of line 9:				
a Excess from 2001				
b Excess from 2002				
c Excess from 2003				
d Excess from 2004				
e Excess from 2005				

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Part XIV Private Operating Foundations (see page 26 of the instructions and Part VII-A, question 9)

1a If the foundation has received a ruling or determination letter that it is a private operating foundation, and the ruling is effective for 2005, enter the date of the ruling

b Check box to indicate whether the organization is a private operating foundation described in section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5)

	Tax year				(e) Total
	(a) 2005	(b) 2004	Prior 3 years		
			(c) 2003	(d) 2002	
2a Enter the lesser of the adjusted net income from Part I or the minimum investment return from Part X for each year listed					
b 85% of line 2a					
c Qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 for each year listed					
d Amounts included in line 2c not used directly for active conduct of exempt activities					
e Qualifying distributions made directly for active conduct of exempt activities Subtract line 2d from line 2c					
3 Complete 3a, b, or c for the alternative test relied upon.					
a "Assets" alternative test—enter:					
(1) Value of all assets					
(2) Value of assets qualifying under section 4942(j)(3)(B)(i)					
b "Endowment" alternative test—enter $\frac{1}{2}$ of minimum investment return shown in Part X, line 6 for each year listed					
c "Support" alternative test—enter:					
(1) Total support other than gross investment income (interest, dividends, rents, payments on securities loans (section 512(a)(5)), or royalties)					
(2) Support from general public and 5 or more exempt organizations as provided in section 4942(j)(3)(B)(iii)					
(3) Largest amount of support from an exempt organization					
(4) Gross investment income					

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Part XV Supplementary Information (Complete this part only if the organization had \$5,000 or more in assets at any time during the year—see page 26 of the instructions.)

1 **Information Regarding Foundation Managers:**

a List any managers of the foundation who have contributed more than 2% of the total contributions received by the foundation before the close of any tax year (but only if they have contributed more than \$5,000). (See section 507(d)(2).)

b List any managers of the foundation who own 10% or more of the stock of a corporation (or an equally large portion of the ownership of a partnership or other entity) of which the foundation has a 10% or greater interest.

2 **Information Regarding Contribution, Grant, Gift, Loan, Scholarship, etc., Programs:**

Check here if the organization only makes contributions to preselected charitable organizations and does not accept unsolicited requests for funds. If the organization makes gifts, grants, etc. (see page 26 of the instructions) to individuals or organizations under other conditions, complete items 2a, b, c, and d.

a The name, address, and telephone number of the person to whom applications should be addressed:

b The form in which applications should be submitted and information and materials they should include:

c Any submission deadlines:

d Any restrictions or limitations on awards, such as by geographical areas, charitable fields, kinds of institutions, or other factors:

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Part XV Supplementary Information (continued)

3 Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment

Recipient Name and address (home or business)	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution	Amount
<i>a Paid during the year</i>				
Total				3a
<i>b Approved for future payment</i>				
Total				3b

100266972

09-2222 0106



Search for Charities, Online Version of Publication 78 Search Results

Organization

Name Includes Carib Charities

At least one of the words
 All of the words

Location

City State All... Country USA

Deductibility Code

Deductibility Code All...

[Begin New Search](#) [Search Tips](#)

Show 25 « Prev | 1-1 | Next »

Name ▲	City	State	Country	Code
Carib News Charities Inc.	New York	NY	USA	4

« Prev | 1-1 | Next »

09-2222 0108.1



Deductibility Code

Publication 78 uses a coding system to identify each organization listed by type and limitation on deductibility of charitable contributions to the organization. The code(s) displayed depend(s) on the code for which the organization qualifies. In cases where an organization has multiple deductibility codes, only the definition for each applicable deductibility code is displayed.

Code	Meaning
4	A private foundation, generally with a 30% deductibility limitation.

Close

09-2222 0108.2

Exhibit 9

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative of IBM, Vice President Market Development, IBM
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: May 8, 2009
Location: IBM Offices, Washington, D.C.
Participants: Leo Wise
Beth Horton
Lisa Palluconi, Counsel for Government Programs for IBM
Adrienne G. Rhone, Director Governmental Programs

Summary: The Representative of IBM is the Vice President of Market Development for IBM. She was interviewed pursuant to Reviews 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. The Representative of IBM helped arrange IBM's participation at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008; she also participated at the event. We requested an interview with the Representative of IBM and she consented to an interview. The Representative of IBM made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. The Representative of IBM was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and she signed a written acknowledgement of the warning.
2. She attended the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008.
3. She attended the conference to extend IBM to areas that were not currently being served. She focuses on the Caribbean because of her division at IBM which is women and minorities. The Caribbean is an underdeveloped business unit for IBM.

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4. She first attended the conference in 2004, as a participant, to see if the conference would be a good fit for IBM to participate at as a sponsor.
5. IBM was an entry level sponsor in '05.
6. She dealt with Faye Rodney on conference matters.
7. After her attendance in '05, she received a thank you letter signed by the Rodneys that asked IBM to be a sponsor at the '06 conference.
8. IBM participated at the '05, '06, '07 and '08 conference.
9. The Rodneys continued their prior practice and sent a thank you letter with a request for sponsorship after the '07 conference for IBM to participate at the '08 conference.
10. The letter was sent to the Operations Executive and the decision to participate was decided as a team. Colin Ward, with ENI Systems, is one of IBM's business partners who also went to the conference.
11. The letter is the first communication regarding the conference.
12. After the letter is received, the team manager negotiates participation at the conference. Negotiations included timing of sessions (day/time). She requested Friday, right before or right after lunch, for the IBM session. It was important to have attendance by individuals interested in technology.
13. She also agreed to moderate the women's breakfast sponsored by Macy's.
14. The team manager would have worked with the Rodneys regarding the break-out sessions.
15. IBM controlled its own content for the session(s).
16. The first year IBM sponsored the conference, the sponsorship level was \$10,000. IBM sponsored the conference the following year at \$15,000, and in '08 the sponsorship went up to \$20,000 after IBM received a request from Faye Rodney for an increase. The Representative of IBM initially counter-offered \$18,000 but agreed to the \$20,000 at the urging of Ms. Rodney.
17. IBM has a methodical way of approving conference sponsorships. The letter from the Rodneys was received in July.

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18. She approved the check for the purchase order and released the check. Carib would have received the check in August or September.
19. After the check is released, she and the business partner collaborate on the content of session.
20. She and the business partner attended the conference.
21. She has only seen the Rodneys at the conference. She has been invited to other events but has not accepted the invitations.
22. She received a call from Mr. Rodney about the article on the conference.
23. She had no knowledge of the Foundation until this matter.
24. She understood Carib News to be the sponsor.
25. The \$20,000 level of sponsorship is low for IBM in general. However, it is worth the presence and branding for small the small business unit practice.
26. She thought IBM's sponsorship was of the conference, she did not know the Foundation existed until this issue arose. Her department does not give to non-profit organizations, only to businesses.
27. The only parameters placed on the money for the conference was with respect to time slots and length of the sessions.
28. She tells her team her preferences and the team works out the specifics with Carib.
29. She does not recall seeing a specific document that listed the various levels of sponsorship.
30. Carib News provides the framework for the conference. Then she typically tells Carib what she wants and what they will pay. She was aware from the signage that other companies were larger sponsors.
31. She arrived at the conference on Thursday and attended the opening reception. She attended a reception on Friday that was hosted by Citi and a breakout session.
32. She noticed names of entities on the agenda from the web that she knew were not at the conference.

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33. She noted that the agenda also listed her breakout session on Saturday which was inaccurate. Her session was on Friday, so she knew the agenda could not have been the final agenda.
34. She seemed to recall seeing the agenda that was submitted to Standards. She noted that the 12:00pm session was accurate, but that she did not believe that the breakout listed on Saturday was accurate.
35. She attended the Macy's breakfast on Saturday morning because it is a popular event. She noted who was on the breakfast panel and who was not (names were listed on agenda). Michelle Patterson did not speak, Burnice Johnson was not on the panel and she was not sure if she even attended the conference.
36. She saw several of the Members who attended the conference. She was on the same flight as Representative Payne. She spoke to Representative Rangel at the reception. Representative Kilpatrick was on a panel with her. And Representative Thompson road to an off-sight event with her. She was sure that she spoke to Delegate Christensen. And she spoke to Sheila Jackson Lee at the awards night.
37. The off-sight event was held at a separate hotel, it included local talent and a comedienne.
38. She stated that Members did not attend the breakout sessions.
39. She had a conversation with Rep. Thompson regarding the election.
40. She left the conference on Sunday morning by 7:00am.
41. She spoke with her team after the article regarding the conference came out.
42. She also called Mr. Rodney after she saw the article; she stated that he told her that there was an investigation and assured her that he had done all that he was supposed to do and that he wanted to keep her as a sponsor.
43. She understood sponsor to be financial sponsor of the conference. She assumed all of the companies whose logos appeared on the banner were sponsors. She assumed Carib News organized the conference.
44. She was not aware of how funding for the conference was handled. She assumed the payment from IBM went to pay for her breakout session and collateral expenses for the session.

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45. Her registration fee was part of the sponsorship. She paid for her room and all travel costs.
46. There were less than 300 people at the conference.
47. When she registered for the conference, she received a badge that allowed access to buffets during the meetings.
48. The registration fee for the conference in '05 was \$750.00.
49. She was not aware of the '08 registration fee.

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

5/8/08

For Office Use:

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 10

Susan A. Sullivan
Verizon Foundation
Director - Strategic Planning & Partnerships

The Verizon logo, featuring a checkmark symbol above the word "verizon" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font.

Verizon Foundation
One Verizon Way
Bldg 6, 3rd Flr South
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

November 25, 2008

Mr. Karl B. Rodney
Chairman & CEO
Carib News Charities, Inc.
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

Dear Mr. Rodney:

On behalf of the Verizon Foundation, it is a pleasure to present the enclosed check for \$35,000.00 to Carib News Charities, Inc. in support of the 13th Annual Carib News Multi-National Business Conference - November 6-9, 2008.

Under the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, Verizon Communications must receive a written receipt from all organizations to which it makes a charitable contribution. Therefore, please complete and return the enclosed form acknowledging this gift within two weeks of receipt.

Verizon Foundation is delighted to support Carib News Charities, Inc. and we wish to thank you and the organization for your dedication and contribution to our communities.

Please recognize our contribution as coming from "Verizon Communications."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Sullivan".

SS/ah

Enclosures

cc: Patrick Gaston
Albert Browne

09-2222 0117

VZ-OCE 0001

INVOICE NUMBER	INVOICE DATE	DESCRIPTION	GROSS	DISCOUNT	NET AMOUNT		
00394421-00003064	11/17/2008	005-13TH ANNUAL MULTI-NATIONAL	35,000.00		35,000.00		
Check No.	Check Date	Vendor No.	Handling Code	Total	\$35,000.00	0.00	\$35,000.00
0002756	11/21/2008	0000011098	FN				

PAGE 1 of 1

Questions? Call 916/357-3270 BU APCRP

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verizon
P.O. Box 2200
Folsom, CA 95763-2200

Wachovia Bank, National Association
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Date 11/21/2008

0002756

88-156
831

Thirty five thousand and 00/100 Dollars

PAY CARIB NEWS CHARITIES, INC.
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLR.
NEW YORK, New York 10018

\$ 35,000.00

Catherine J. Webster

VOID SIX MONTHS AFTER ISSUE DATE

Security Features Included Details on back

⑈0002756⑈ ⑆053101561⑆ 2079900572609⑈

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verizon
P.O. Box 2200
Folsom, CA 95763-2200

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FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SACRAMENTO, CA
PERMIT NO. 98

CARIB NEWS CHARITIES, INC.
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLR.
NEW YORK, New York 10018

09-2222 0118

VZ-OCE 0002

Acknowledgment of Charitable Contribution

IMPORTANT: Please acknowledge the enclosed charitable contribution by completing and returning this form. Donors cannot deduct contributions unless they are acknowledged in this manner and a failure to return this form in a timely manner may make you ineligible for future contributions by Verizon Foundation.

1. I hereby acknowledge the Verizon Foundation 2008 contribution of:

\$35,000.00

for 13th Annual Multi-National Business Conference - November 6-9, 2008.

(or describe property or services other than money received)

Received on (date):

Date of check: 11/21/08

2. Please indicate whether or not any goods or services were provided by your organization in consideration for this contribution (e.g., the value of food, beverage, ticket or entertainment at a fundraising event):

 Yes No

If YES, please describe what was provided and give a good faith estimate of the value to the goods or services, understanding that the amount of the contribution that is deductible as a charitable contribution is limited to the excess of money and the value of property contributed over the value of the goods and services provided by the charity.

Description:

Est. Value: \$

3. The information above is provided for the purpose of complying with IRS reporting requirements and is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that penalties may be imposed by the IRS on charities that fail to make the required disclosure or for making a disclosure that is inaccurate or incomplete.

Name:

Title:

Organization: Carib News Charities, Inc.

Organization Tax I.D.#: 133632050vz

Signature:

Date:

Please return to:

Anita Coleman-Hunt
Verizon Foundation One Verizon Way, VC63S427
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Telephone: 908-559-3516

Fax: 908-630-2660

09-2222 0119

VZ-OCE 0003

Acknowledgment of Charitable Contribution

IMPORTANT: Please acknowledge the enclosed charitable contribution by completing and returning this form. Donors cannot deduct contributions unless they are acknowledged in this manner and a failure to return this form in a timely manner may make you ineligible for future contributions by Verizon Foundation.

1. I hereby acknowledge the Verizon Foundation 2008 contribution of:
\$35,000.00
for 13th Annual Multi-National Business Conference - November 6-9, 2008.

(or describe property or services other than money received)

Received on (date): 11/26/08 Date of check: 11/21/08

2. Please indicate whether or not any goods or services were provided by your organization in consideration for this contribution (e.g., the value of food, beverage, ticket or entertainment at a fundraising event):

Yes No

If YES, please describe what was provided and give a good faith estimate of the value to the goods or services, understanding that the amount of the contribution that is deductible as a charitable contribution is limited to the excess of money and the value of property contributed over the value of the goods and services provided by the charity.

Description:

Est. Value: \$ 1300.00

Registration + Conference Meal Plan

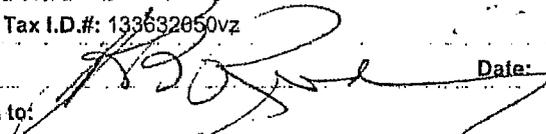
3. The information above is provided for the purpose of complying with IRS reporting requirements and is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that penalties may be imposed by the IRS on charities that fail to make the required disclosure or for making a disclosure that is inaccurate or incomplete.

Name: KARL B. RODNEY

Title: PUBLISHER / CEO

Organization: Carib News Charities, Inc.

Organization Tax I.D.#: 133632050vz

Signature: 

Date: 12/3/08

Please return to:

Anita Coleman-Hunt
Verizon Foundation One Verizon Way, VC63S427
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Telephone: 908-559-3516

Fax: 908-630-2660

09-2222 0120

VZ-OCE 0004

Exhibit 11

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: March 23, 2009
Location: Verizon Offices, Washington, DC
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy
Beth Horton
David Kass, Assistant General Counsel Compliance
James C. Wilson, Vice President and Associate General Counsel Compliance

Summary: Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation is the President and the Strategic Director for Philanthropy of the Verizon Foundation. He was interviewed pursuant to Reviews 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation participated at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008. We requested an interview with Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and he consented to an interview. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning, signed a written acknowledgement of the warning
2. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation is currently the President of the Verizon Foundation ("the Foundation") and Strategic Director for Philanthropy. His duties

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involve budget planning and implementation and governance for the foundation.

Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation has significant decision-making authority over grants issued by the foundation. He approves all grants in excess of \$25,000 and all grants funded more than two years in a row. He has been with the foundation and acting as President for the past five years.

3. The Foundation is funded through a corpus donated by Verizon and through public donations under Verizon Reads, a program that is offered as part of customer billing statements. The Foundation approves approximately 2,900 grants (totaling 67 million) through a competitive loan application process. The Foundation's online loan application process has specific approval requirements, including a quarterly "impact report."
4. The Foundation funded the Carib News Foundation for the first time in 2008, the grant was issued to provide funding for the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference ("the Conference"). Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation approved the Carib News Foundation grant. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was the Foundation's contact person for the Conference. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation did not interact with Karl Rodney or anyone at Carib News regarding the Foundation's participation at the Conference. Both Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation attended the conference. Mr. Rodney invited Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation to speak at the Conference and subsequently applied for a grant from the Foundation.
5. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and Mr. Rodney are both members of the board of the Foundation for the University of the West Indies. The two men interacted at board meetings four times per year. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he may also have spoken to Mr. Rodney 1-2 other times prior to the Conference regarding how the Foundation could showcase its Thinkfinity program. He also stated that he may have spoken to Mr. Rodney once after receiving his letter of invitation for the Conference. He does not recall Mr. Rodney "pitching" the conference to him. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation would not have participated at the Conference unless he could speak on educational issues. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation believed the Conference would be a good opportunity to showcase the Foundation's Thinkfinity program.
6. Mr. Rodney was aware of the Foundation's educational work through his interaction with Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation at board meetings for the Foundation of the University of West Indies. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that while

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he had spoken with Mr. Rodney regarding the Thinkfinity program, he did not make any type of informal commitment to fund the Conference.

7. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation believed that there were three levels of sponsorship for the Conference, the highest being \$50,000 and the lowest being \$25,000. However, he does not recall seeing any specific document(s) setting out the different levels of sponsorship. He stated that he was not interested in sponsorship at the \$50,000 level but later decided on a \$35,000 grant donation. When asked what the Foundation received at the Conference for the \$35,000, Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated signage and visibility. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation often provides such support for conferences, including the NAACP conference and National Urban League Conference.
8. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was provided 3 venues at the Conference to speak about the Thinkfinity program. The Foundation believed participation at the Conference would provide exposure to English speaking Caribbean individuals who have connections to universities in New York.
9. The Foundation is required to issue grants only to 501(c)(3) entities. The Foundation could not make a donation to a corporation. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was somewhat familiar with the Carib News paper; he has been featured in the paper and Verizon has advertised in the paper. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was not aware of Carib News Charities until the entity applied for a grant. He believed Carib News Charities was the same entity as Carib News Foundation. He is not aware of any other work the Carib News Charities/Foundation is involved in other than the conference. Mr. Rodney did not talk about the Carib News Charities/Foundation at board meetings.
10. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation arrived at the Conference on Thursday afternoon and departed on Saturday morning. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he went to make his speech and promptly left the event. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation spoke 3 times on Friday; he was acknowledge at the welcome event on Friday morning and he participated in a demonstration on Thinkfinity in the afternoon. It is not clear from Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation's remarks what other time he spoke at the Conference. He was invited to speak on Saturday but he did not feel that an extra day was necessary.
11. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation recalled seeing and speaking to Congressman Rangel. The Congressman mentioned Alltel and told him to remind his CEO to keep in mind the needs of the minority community. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation

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stated that he had no other contact with Members at the Conference. He did not know Delegate Christenson, Congressman Thompson, Congressman Payne and was not sure whether he saw Congresswoman Kilpatrick (he was not sure who she is). He does recall that one lady stated that she would love to see the Thinkfinity program in her state. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was accompanied by Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation 90% of the time he was at the Conference; he was not aware of any contact between Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and any Members.

12. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation received an advance copy of the agenda for the conference. The copy indicated that the Foundation was scheduled for two days of activities. He requested that the Saturday meetings be canceled or moved to Friday. He had not seen the agenda that Mr. Rodney submitted to the Ethics Committee for travel approval. He stated that advance copies of the agenda were common, most organizations provided the same level of detail with other conferences. He believed that he had seen more than one copy of the agenda. The agendas that were sent to him focused on the Foundation's participation and not the entire conference.
13. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was asked if it was typical to have an agenda that listed speakers without identifying their employer/affiliations. He was not sure and didn't remember if the drafts he had seen included his title; he was more concerned with having a sense of what he would be doing at the Conference.
14. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney prior to the Conference to cancel the programs he was slated to speak at on Saturday (this was his 3rd call regarding the Conference – 1st call was regarding invitation, 2nd call was to discuss his participation, 3rd was to cancel Saturday programs). Mr. Rodney was receptive to Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation's request and the Saturday program was cancelled.
15. The Foundation paid all travel expenses for Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation. He did not see the check the Foundation issued for the Conference or the confirmation letter from Mr. Rodney. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation met with Mr. Rodney following the conference at a board meeting for the Foundation for the University of West Indies. He also had breakfast with Mr. Rodney at which time they briefly discussed the Conference. According to Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation, Mr. Rodney was upset over the New York Post article regarding the Conference. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Mr. Rodney felt the article was misleading and that he had done everything that he was supposed to do

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- regarding receiving approval from the Ethics Committee. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he and Mr. Rodney did not spend much time speaking about the matter. He felt that Mr. Rodney wanted him to know that he was diligent about following rules. When asked if he knew what rules Mr. Rodney was speaking about, Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he did not know which rules he was referring to.
16. Prior to his work with the Foundation, Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was with Government Affairs with Verizon, his former position did not involve lobbying. His position involved Strategic Alliance, he was responsible for working with non-profits across the country. He dealt with policy issues regarding universal service. He did not interact with regulators.
17. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation met with Eric Eve with Citi 2-3 weeks prior to our interview, they were both attending a meeting with the head of the NAACP. He did not speak to Mr. Eve about the Conference although they did speak about scrutiny on Citi related to TARP funding. He has not had any contact with the Representative of Citi from Citi.

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: 3/23/09

For Office Use:

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 12

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation
Review #: 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; 09-2222
Date: March 23, 2009
Location: Verizon Offices, Washington, DC
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy
Beth Horton
David Kass, Assistant General Counsel Compliance
James C. Wilson, Vice President and Associate General Counsel Compliance

Summary: Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation is the National Program Director for the Verizon Foundation and Vice President for Education & Technology for Verizon. He was interviewed pursuant to Reviews 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation helped arrange the Verizon Foundation's participation at the 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference in 2008; he also accompanied Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation to the event. We requested an interview with Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and he consented to an interview. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning, signed a written acknowledgement of the warning

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2. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation is currently the National Program Director for the Verizon Foundation ("the Foundation") and Vice President for Education & Training for Verizon. He works on educational literacy and technology innovations for the Foundation, 80% of his time is spent on Thinkfinity. He is the only person with an operational role in the program.
3. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation helped arrange the Verizon Foundation's participation at 13th Annual Caribbean Multinational Business Conference ("the Conference") in 2008; he also accompanied Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation to the event.
4. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation reviews repeat grant requests for the Foundation. When asked how the Carib News Foundation request came to his desk he stated that it was a result of conversations with Karl Rodney and Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation. He was not sure which conversation occurred first. Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation was invited to speak at the Conference and either simultaneously or immediately after Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation received the invitation, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney.
5. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes that he spoke with Mr. Rodney in person at a meeting for the Foundation for the University of the West Indies. Mr. Rodney inquired about the application for the grant for the Conference. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation recalled Mr. Rodney stating that he had spoke with Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and that he believed the Conference would be a good fit for the Foundation and would provide a good opportunity to communicate the Foundation's program Thinkfinity.
6. The Verizon Foundation also supports the Foundation for the University of the West Indies. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation has interacted with Mr. Rodney regarding the Foundation for the University of the West Indies.
7. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation also had previous interactions with Mr. Rodney at dinner and business meetings related the American Fund and to the publication of articles on the Foundation's Thinkfinity program.
8. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation will have been with the Foundation 3 years in October.

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9. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes he began talking with Mr. Rodney about the Conference sometime in the summer. He spoke with Mr. Rodney about the grant application. He described to Mr. Rodney the cyber grant process and explained what needed to be provided in the grant application. The system requires applicants to be 501 (c)(3) entities.
10. The head of Governance and Compliance for Verizon verifies whether applicant is a registered 501(c)(3). A grant request from a non 501 (c)(3) would be removed from the system; the request would not be forwarded to Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation. The Foundation's grant approval process is formal. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he could show a specific interest in a proposal but could not give any type of commitment to an applicant.
11. Mr. Rodney would be required to provide a deck of the '07 conference, a description of the purpose of the conference and a tentative agenda for the cyber application.
12. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney approximately 8-10 weeks prior to the conference at which time they discussed the level of sponsorship the Foundation was interested in funding.
13. Mr. Rodney described 3 levels of sponsorship to Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that this was typical of corporate sponsorships at other conferences.
14. Mr. Rodney offered the Foundation a \$50,000 sponsorship, which was the gold level. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes there was also a platinum level at \$75,000. He believes that Mr. Rodney showed him a 2007 deck with 3 levels (platinum at \$75,000, gold at \$50,000, and silver at \$25,000) prior to a scheduled interview of Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation.
15. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation explained to Mr. Rodney that the Foundation wished to negotiate a level of funding other than what was being offered. The amount of \$35,000 was decided upon by the Foundation.
16. When asked what the Foundation would receive for its funding, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that they would receive signage but that the Foundation was not specifically interested in a "quid pro quo" reciprocation, the Foundation merely wanted to disseminate information about its Thinkfinity program. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation does not do business in the Caribbean.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

17. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation made an introductory speech but that he was not sure whether the speech was included in the Foundation's sponsorship level; the speech was not pre-set in the 2007 sponsorship deck.
18. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Mr. Rodney approximately once a week for 6-7 weeks prior to the conference to discuss Verizon's participation/logistics/capacity for web casts at the conference – contact included phone calls and emails. Contact increased as conference approached.
19. When asked how Verizon decided on \$35,000 sponsorship, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he received a call from the Carib staff regarding the conference. The Foundation was asked to sponsor at the \$50,000 level, a \$35,000 counter-offer was made to Mr. Rodney, which he accepted.
20. Conversations regarding sponsorship levels began about 8-10 weeks prior to the conference with the final dollar figure being determined approximately 2 weeks prior to the conference.
21. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spoke with Patricia with Carib regarding sponsorship, she thought the Foundation was sponsoring at the \$50,000, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation explained that the amount was \$35,000. When asked if Karl Rodney was upset with the sponsorship level, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation answered that he was not upset.
22. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation worked on the conference before Carib submitted application for funding which he stated was not unusual.
23. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he saw early drafts of the agenda prior to the conference, and then saw final draft at conference.
24. An early draft was shared with him in order for him to staff and notify Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation of his speaking times.
25. He did not recall seeing any affiliation information on the early draft, he believes affiliations might have appeared on final draft. He did ask that any information be included on final draft after reviewing the earlier version.
26. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation prepared 2 versions of the Foundation's role at the conference.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended.

27. The topics for the conference were decided through dialog between himself and Karl Rodney with some prior comments from Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation. Mr. Rodney was aware of the Thinkfinity program. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation suggested web casts.
28. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation thought that Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation and Mr. Rodney framed the Foundation's participation at the conference.
29. Town Hall event was Mr. Rodney's idea.
30. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes that Mr. Rodney was trying to bring together various corporate interests to create a dialogue about social and economic issues that would benefit both the Caribbean and the U.S.
31. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Carib News Foundation was the only charitable entity that he was aware of, it was the listed entity in the grant application.
32. The question arose as to who sponsored conference, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he was aware that Carib News was a for-profit entity, so he asked who was the sponsor. If the sponsor was Carib News, the Foundation could not participate as a sponsor.
33. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he did not see the check that went to the Conference, it would have been generated and sent through the internal system.
34. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation did not recall seeing the name Carib News Charities Inc.
35. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation saw an early draft of the grant application but does not recall seeing the final version. He was not responsible for final approval.
36. Kathy Browne, Senior VP for Corporate Responsibility would have approved the grant.
37. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation spent 2.5 days at the conference, he arrived on Thursday evening, participated at the conference on Friday and departed on Sunday.
38. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and Representative 1 of the Verizon Foundation participated in the welcome remarks on Friday morning, the plenary session, and in a roundtable meeting with educational ministers.
39. Mr. Rodney arranged these meetings, the webcast did not take place.

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40. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation did not attend the conference on Saturday or Sunday. He also left the hotel after the Foundation completed its presentations.
41. When asked about the Town Hall meeting, Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that Karl Rodney suggested that the Foundation speak about the Thinkfinity program, the opening remarks framework was also suggested by Mr. Rodney, Mr. Eve was to give introductory remarks and then Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was to speak.
42. There was a back and forth discussion about the plenary session between Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation and Mr. Rodney to determine what role the Foundation would play in conjunction with the President of Medgar Evers College. The topic was technology supporting education.
43. There was no discussion regarding scheduling sessions to benefit US companies.
44. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that he did not have any contact with Members of Congress other than a possible introductory handshake.
45. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation saw Representatives Kilpatrick, Rangel and the former head of the NAACP at the conference, along with other governmental officials from other countries. He also recalled seeing Delegate Christensen and Representative Payne. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation did not know Representative Thompson.
46. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation interacted with Mr. Rodney after the conference to discuss the American Fund and the University of the West Indies. He did not discuss the conference with Mr. Rodney.
47. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation believes that he may have received a thank you letter from Mr. Rodney for participating at the conference.
48. He did not see the contribution-sponsorship letter.
49. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation was aware of Mr. Rodney's Foundation, and the fact that it sponsored the conference. He also believed Mr. Rodney's Foundation performed social work for boys and girls club events and that it worked with the American Fund for the University of the West Indies. He was not sure why he felt that Rodney's Foundation was involved with these other events.

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50. Representative 2 of the Verizon Foundation stated that the Foundation did not place any restrictions on the funding it provided to the conference through its grant, the use would have been specified in the grant application/guidelines

Beth Horton
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

3/23/09.

For Office Use:

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 13



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

April 04, 2008

Ms. Marilyn Johnson
VP Marketing Development
IBM Corporation
1133 Westchester Avenue
White Plains, NY 10604

*Copy of [unclear]
copy of [unclear]
copy of [unclear]*

Dear Ms. Johnson:

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

Your support and that of IBM went a long way to make the conference a success and has fostered on-going growth in business achievements and impactful policy decisions. We appreciate very much the professionalism and enthusiasm you bring to the Conference with your keen participation. The presence and demonstration of real live "IBM Partner" as a result of the conference is a powerful testimony. We do get concrete results and expressed appreciation of new opportunities.

We can assure you that all the key stakeholders, Members of Congress, Heads and Ministers of Government, Elected Officials, Community and Business Leaders are all aware and appreciative of IBM's participation in this very important mission.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. We know of your interest to deepen the IBM local, regional and global connection, and I know the Conference can achieve that. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

3

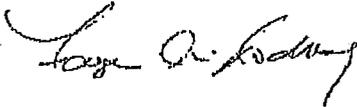
Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail. I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

4

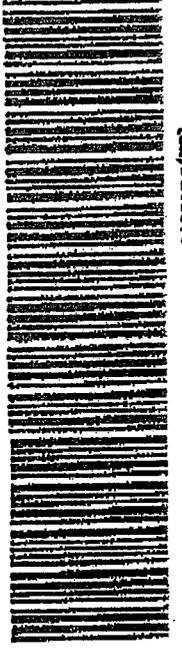
Invoice

CARIB NEWS INC.
7 WEST 36TH STREET
8TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, 10018
212-944-1991

Date	Invoice #
7/16/2008	45122

Bill To
Wanda McKenzie IBM 2607 Jesters Court Marietta, GA 30068

Description	Amount
Sponsorship Multi-National Business Conference 2008 TAX ID 13-362060	20,000.00
6	
Total	\$20,000.00

EXP		Pieces: 1/1
FORM: 12 IN C/D TIR011 0030		ORIG: 1LE
M. Johnson C/O ARMOLO LOGISTICS 11400 BURNET RD AUSTIN, TX 78758 UNITED STATES Phone: 512-286-2350		POST CODE: 10018
To: NEW YORK CARIB NEWS, INC. FAYE RODNEY 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10018 UNITED STATES		TEL: 212-944-1091
Description: IBM check		
Weight: Letter		
Date: 2008-10-08		
DHL standard terms and conditions apply.		
 CAJ318018		JRAC 0T ABH
 WAYBILL: 29267255350 (New-Header)		

Check Number: 50-837 0003777521	
International Business Machines Corporation 1901 North St. Armonk, New York 12140-8563	
DATE: 2008/10/08	The sum of \$*****20,000.00**
Pay to the order of: NEW YORK CARIB NEWS 7 W 36TH ST 8TH FL NEW YORK NY 10018 UNITED STATES	Per: <i>Richard J. Carroll</i> Authorized signature
J.P. Morgan Chase Bank Branch: NY 10018	

⑆0003777521⑆ ⑆021309379⑆601825847⑆

7

Exhibit 14

May 15, 2009

MEMORANDUM

VIA FAX TO: 202-226-0997

TO: Omar Ashmawy
FROM: Will Ris
RE: Materials related to Carib News Foundation Conference

At your request, I am faxing you the following documents:

1. The original letter of request for support from Carib News Foundation sent to American Airlines. I assume that they sent the identical letter to other airlines because in paragraph 3, they refer to "Continental" when it should be "American". In any case, they requested a total of 95 tickets for this event. We responded orally and told them the maximum we could provide would be 10.
2. A listing of the 10 tickets that we provided. If you need more detailed records of each individual ticket, I am happy to provide it. But this shows the names and itineraries of all 10 travelers. We provided no other support for the conference except that our group sales office authorized a standard 5 percent discount on tickets for those travelling to the conference - - this is universally available to any group of 10 or more travelling to the same location.

If there is anything else I can help you with, please let me know.



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

June 6, 2008

Mr. Will Ris
Senior Vice President
Government Affairs
American Airlines
1101 17th Street, Suite 600
Washington, DC 20036

(10 First)

Dear Mr. Ris:

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Since Air Transportation is such a vital issue for the Caribbean Region, it is going to be one of the Agenda items in the travel & Tourism sector. Continental's success is vital to the Caribbean region and the US role in world travel; we would expect significant input into any initiatives discussed.

We expect to have elected officials of the US and the Caribbean, Civic Leaders and Business- persons who can influence policies and encourage worthwhile initiatives to be at the Conference. We would welcome American Airlines' participation.

The Host Committee in the Caribbean Region and the Planning Committee in the US have all agreed to honor you with the Conference's prestigious *Marcus Garvey Bridge Builders Award*. Should you agree to accept, we would ask Congressman Charles Rangel and Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson to make the presentation to you.

We are open to our customary barter of tickets for sponsorship levels, and have enclosed a proposed arrangement guide similar to last year.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

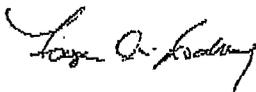
Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail. I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl E. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

We are expecting about 20 Members of Congress or more who will be attending along with other Civic Leaders and VIP's. Again, we will position American Airlines as one of the main carriers to the Caribbean transporting the elected officials and celebrities. To help us move the process along we would like to propose the following, that American Airlines participate as a Gold Sponsor of the conference in consideration for which American Airlines would receive the following:

- American Airlines will be recognized as a main sponsor.
- American Airlines name and logo will be included on all printed material.
- American Airlines will be included in all radio and television promotions.
- American Airlines will be in all Internet promotions.
- American Airlines will be a designated sponsor of a main event and/or a workshop with speaking opportunities.
- American Airlines will receive prominent space for display or exhibition.
- American Airlines banners will be displayed in the main conference area
- American Airlines can develop specific promotional materials.

In return for the above, American Airlines will provide *Carib News* with:

- Maximum of fifty (50) roundtrip coach class tickets from the 48 contiguous United States to Antigua. Reservations to be done by *Carib News* and ticketing to be by American Airlines.
- Maximum of thirty-five (35) first-class roundtrip tickets from the 48 contiguous United States to Antigua.
- Maximum of five (5) coach class tickets and five (5) first class tickets to be used for site inspection and conference planning prior to the conference.
- American Airlines will provide group fares for registered attendees. Fare and reservations & ticketing to be negotiated by American Airlines.

Site Inspection is part of the sponsorship package. We do plan to do site inspections in St. Maarten when we will officially announce the Conference and work out broad issues.

CARIBBEANS SKM CONFERENCE 2008

Organization Name	Building Code	Description	Title/Desk	Event Name	Authorizer STA	BRN	Letter Nbr	Expiration Date	Rate/Rate	Meeting	PNR	Traveler Name
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	2	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbeans SKM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388125	525150	JPR-SKM-JPR	LJURDQ	RODNEY/E
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	2	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbeans SKM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388125	525150	JPR-SKM-JPR	LJURDQ	RODNEY/E
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	2	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbeans SKM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388125	525150	JPR-SKM-JPR	LJURDQ	RODNEY/E
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	2	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbeans SKM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388125	525150	JPR-SKM-JPR	LJURDQ	RODNEY/E
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	2	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbeans SKM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388125	525150	JPR-SKM-JPR	LJURDQ	RODNEY/E
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	2	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbeans SKM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388125	525150	JPR-SKM-JPR	LJURDQ	RODNEY/E
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	2	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbeans SKM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	388125	525150	JPR-SKM-JPR	LJURDQ	RODNEY/E
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	T	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbeans SKM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	412645	539511	JPR-SKU-SKM-JPR	EWART	WILLIAM/S/J
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	T	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbeans SKM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	412647	539511	DC-A-MID-SKM-MID-DCA	CHPWAZ	SIMMONS/C
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	T	NAM	PRONAM	Caribbeans SKM Conference 2008	50348	3237	1141	412648	539511	JPR-SID-SKM-JPR	HBQWVW	DOURSON/A

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House ID	Registrant Name	Client Name	Filing Year	Filing Period	Lobbyist Full Name
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2006	Year-End	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2006	Year-End	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2006	Year-End	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2007	Mid-Year	Caine, Christopher
311230000	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION	2007	Year-End	Caine, Christopher

09-2222 0149

311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2007	Mid- Year	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2007	Mid- Year	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	1st Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	2nd Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	3rd Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2008	4th Quarter	Caine, Christopher
311230000	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	(IBM) INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION (IBM)	2009	1st Quarter	Edington, PJ
311230000	International Business Machines Corporation (IBM)	International Business Machines Corporation (IBM)	2005	Year- End	Caine, Christopher
401290000	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	2008	1st Quarter	None
401290000	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	2008		Last Name 01, First Name 01
401290000	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	QA Internal Test - New Database IBM	2008	3rd Quarter	None

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310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2006	Year-End	Burgeson, Christine
310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2007	Mid-Year	Burgeson, Christine
310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2007	Year-End	Burgeson, Christine
310520000	CITIGROUP, INC	CITIGROUP, INC	2007	Year-End	Burgeson, Christine
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2007	Mid-Year	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2007	Year-End	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	1st Quarter	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	2nd Quarter	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	3rd Quarter	None
355240000	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	CITIZENS COAL COUNCIL	2008	4th Quarter	None
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2006	Year-End	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2007	Mid-Year	Snyder, John

09-2222 0151

316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2007	Year-End	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	1st Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	2nd Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	3rd Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2008	4th Quarter	Snyder, John
316720000	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS	2009	1st Quarter	Snyder, John
373770000	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	2007	Mid-Year	Robinson, Ken
373770000	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	2007	Year-End	Robinson, Kenneth

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Client Name	verizon	Search Field	
Search Field		Search Field	

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Primary Sort Registrant Name Secondary Sort Client Name

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House ID	Registrant Name	Client Name	Filing Year	Filing Period	Lobbyist Full Name
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2006	Year-End	Davidson, Peter B.
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Mid-Year	Davidson, Peter B.
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Year-End	Davidson, Peter
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	1st Quarter	Davidson, Peter
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	2nd Quarter	Cantrel, Frank
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	3rd Quarter	Cantrel, Frank
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	4th Quarter	Davidson, Peter
315720000	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON & ITS AFFILIATES, EXCEPT VERIZON WIRELESS	2009	1st Quarter	Cantrel, Frank
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2006	Year-End	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Mid-Year	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2007	Year-End	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	1st	

09-2222 0153

Contributor	Organization	Year	Quarter	Recipient
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	2nd Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	3rd Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	2008	4th Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
352050000	VERIZON WIRELESS	2009	1st Quarter	Brittingham, Donald
315720000	Verizon & its affiliates, except Verizon Wireless	2005	Year-End	Davidson, Peter
315720000	Verizon & its affiliates, except Verizon Wireless	2006	Mid-Year	Davidson, Peter
352050000	Verizon Wireless	2005	Year-End	Azare, Monica
352050000	Verizon Wireless	2006	Mid-Year	Azare, Monica

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Exhibit 16



BASIC REQUIREMENTS

TO HOST

CARIBBEAN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

- Invitation to host conference to be issued by Prime Minister (Head of Government). This is to facilitate the attendance of several elected officials from the United States, United Kingdom and other countries.
- Prime Minister to be keynote speaker at one of the major events of the conference and participates in the closed door session with attending elected officials.
- Local host committee to be organized with all interested ministers, agencies and associations. The chairman of this committee would be someone designated by the Prime Minister to coordinate all the activities.
- To provide the care and comfort for the VIP's attending i.e.
 - To provide 25 all-inclusive rooms for the VIP's and members of Congress attending.
 - To provide appropriate mode of transportation for VIP's and members of Congress - cars or specialized vans - not buses.
- To be a designated sponsor in one of the categories - *Title, Main or Regular Sponsor* (See Attachment)
- To organize a "Host Country Evening" - The Friday evening, the host country will host at an appropriate location an evening of food, refreshment, cultural presentation and entertainment.
- Provide for local entertainment for the various functions -
 - The Opening Ceremonies
 - The Reception
 - The Gala Dinner
- To assist in Promotion and Publicity of the conference both locally and through international offices and official publications.
- Assist in securing competitive hotel rates.
- Equip and staff conference secretariat.
- Prime Minister to issue invitations along with CARIB NEWS to members of the US Congress, other Prime Ministers and Ministers of Government.
- Participate in the Forum with Members of Congress.
- Arrange tours and activities of interest for VIP's and/or their spouse.

09-2222 0156

THE NEW YORK
CARIBNEWS
THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10018 (212) 944-1991

August 13, 2008

The Hon. Sarah A. Wescott-Williams
Leader of Government
Government Administration Building
Clam Labega Square, Philipsburg
St. Maarten, N.A.

Hon. Commissioner:

Plans are moving ahead for the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-national Business Conference, November 6-9 in your beautiful country. We have sent out invitations to several Members of Congress, Prime Ministers, Presidents and Premiers, to attend the Conference. A list of those invitees is attached. Senator Hillary Clinton has expressed an interest and her invitation will be forwarded soon. Also see Congressman Rangel's personal note of acceptance.

We wish for you now to send out your invitation to these individuals as previously discussed. A copy of past invitation letter is included. We will continue to do all the follow-up as planning and implementation as agreed to.

We are working on the draft of the program and will be sharing it with you and the Host Committee shortly. We would like to schedule our first Conference meeting by telephone with the Host Committee within the next 10 days, to start going over each area of the Basic requirements list, and to develop some time-line and contact person for each area.

We need to know immediately who on the Host Committee will be handling press and publicity, we can start sending Press Releases and Press updates.

We will be sending regular updates.

Kindest Regards



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

c.c. Commissioner Roy Marlin
Director of Tourism, Regina LaBega
Marla Chemont



Taking Our Rightful Place In The Sun

09-2222 0157



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail:

June 25, 2008

Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams
Leader of Government Business
Government Administration Building
Clem Labega Square
Phillipsburg, St. Maarten, NA

Dear Commissioner Wescot-Williams:

Plans are coming in place for the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-national Business Conference scheduled for November 6-9, at your invitation to the beautiful country of St. Maarten.

We were very involved with the Conference on the Caribbean held in New York last week with some fifteen Heads of CARICOM Governments, which was a success, but took a large part of our time. All attention is now set for St. Maarten.

We have signed the contract with the Maho Resort and we are in conversation with many of our sponsors. Already we have some important names agreeing to come, including Congressman Charles Rangel and Governor of New York, David Paterson. We are mindful of the issues of interest to St. Maarten and so we have issued invitations to several Members of Congress, Heads of Education and Health institutions. A strong financial sector is expected; already Citibank and HSBC are on board.

There is very strong interest in the conference and all the information about the conference as St. Maarten is now on the website, in print and on radio. The promotion has begun in earnest.

We would now wish to start liaison with the local host committee to coordinate our planning with yours. Could you be kind enough to please identify the committee and the contact person and other information. We would wish that the person would report to you directly or Commissioner Marlin to expedite any matter.

Please find attached ideas for the Theme and some areas of concentration from which we can develop the program. The Host Committee should use the basic requirement as the basis for their planning. We will send a matrix of some time line and arrange for our next planning visit.

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CN-000045

2008 CARIBBEAN MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

THEMES

We are suggesting as possible themes, the following.

Please feel free to change, adjust or even new approaches.

CHANGING STRATEGIES TO EMBRACE NEW POSSIBILITIES - THE GLOBAL MARKET

MOVING BEYOND BARRIERS TO A STRATEGY FOR GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

CHANGING STRATEGIES, BUILDING ALLIANCES, FACING NEW REALITIES

A REGION IN TRANSITION - STRATEGY FOR CHANGE, ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS

AREAS OF CONCENTRATION

We are also now shaping the presentations and the workshops and the areas of concentration are some of which were suggested by yourself and Commissioner Marlin:

1) **TOURISM**

- Pre clearance
- Unfunded mandate by the US
- Investment in Tourism
- Health tourism
- Regional co-operation

2) **HEALTH**

- St. Maarten, ideal location for Regional Health Center
- Delivery of health care
- Lifestyle diseases - diabetes, hypertension, obesity
- Health Investment
- Collaboration with US Institutions

3) **EDUCATION**

- Collaboration with US institutions
- Curriculum development
- Presentation of Thinkfinity - high tech tool for teaching
- Initiative between the University of the West Indies and Medgar Evers College



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

To : Host Committee:
Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference
cc: Bernard Hunt, Sonesta Maho Beach Resort

From : Karl B. Rodney
CARIB NEWS

Date : October 15, 2008

SUBJECT : Town Hall Meetings

In the interest of organizing successful Town Hall Meetings, and to make program print deadline, we suggest the use of the space available at the Sonesta Maho for those meetings.

We think the participation of the local groups and individuals in these meetings are necessary and productive because of the subject matter. We would therefore urge a strong outreach media program and direct contact to interest groups to ensure success of the Fora.

Thursday 5:00 – 6:30pm : Healthy Eating and Living

Friday 4:30 – 6:00pm : Education – Sharing Working Solutions

Saturday 4:30 – 6:00 pm : Technology

There is a great line up and we may have some additional star power. Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams also suggested she might have additional local speakers for these fora, and we welcome that.

Thanks for your kind cooperation.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

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CN-000047



Carib News Foundation

7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017

Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: (212) 944-2089

E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

February 8, 2008

Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams
Leader of Government Business
Government Administration Building
Clem Labega Square
Philipsburg, St. Maarten, NA

Dear Commissioner Wescot-Williams:

It is with great pleasure that I wish to inform you that the Planning Committee has selected St. Maarten to host the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, November 6-9, 2008. There was great interest in St. Maarten because of your personal invitation issued in Antigua, and certainly all the other excellent facilities on the island.

We look forward to a great conference and with working with you and your team. We would wish that you appoint the Host Committee as soon as possible so that the real planning will start. We will be proposing some thematic approaches for your consideration, in order to get the right participants and targeted focus.

We have the proposal from the hotels and will be making that selection within the week, after which we can start the promotion. The *SAVE THE DATE* and *VENUE* will be going out to the Members of Congress shortly. We will develop a time line for the other activities.

We are proceeding with the plan and would appreciate the formal letter of invitation.

We are very excited about working with you and St. Maarten again, and we expect a great conference.

Congratulations, and thanks for your kind consideration.

Very Truly Yours,

Faye A. Rodney

President

Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CBO

cc. Marla Chemont, Marketing Assistant

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

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CN-000048



Carib News Foundation
7 West 30th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

January 23, 2008

Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams
Leader of Government Business
Government Administration Building
Clem Labega Square
Philipsburg, St. Maarten, NA

Dear Commissioner Wescot-Williams:

Thanks very much for inviting us to St. Maarten to explore the possibility of St. Maarten as the Host Venue for the Thirteenth Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference, scheduled for November 6-9, 2008.

We had the pleasure of meeting with Commissioner Roy Marlin to discuss the conference, its mission and of course, St. Maarten's priorities to be addressed in the conference. Among the areas discussed were:

- * The Passport issue and its impact on St. Maarten and the Caribbean
- * The US Pre-clearance option and what are the possibilities
- * Educational collaboration and in-state tuition consideration for students from St. Maarten
- * A major women's initiative at the conference and targeting many large sororities to hold meetings and conventions in St. Maarten
- * The influence on impact of the Congressional delegation on the current constitutional negotiations with the Dutch Government, particularly where the Dutch Government has lobbied these Members on their special interests.
- * An appealing or special role model to address the youth of St. Maarten
- * To conduct community outreach programs involving the wider population in the areas of Health, Education and possibly Technology.

These are areas that we can establish direct linkages with elected officials, professional experts, corporate perspectives and certainly business opportunities.

We were reminded by Ludwig Guemiche the then President of the Chamber of Commerce, that it was in St. Maarten that the issue of increase of Duty Free Allowance was raised and was subsequently raised to twice the amount within six months, benefiting all the merchants not only in St. Maarten but the Caribbean.

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Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

April 04, 2008

Ms. Marilyn Johnson
VP Marketing Development
IBM Corporation
1133 Westchester Avenue
White Plains, NY 10604

*Copy of [unclear]
copy of [unclear]
copy of [unclear]*

Dear Ms. Johnson:

For the past twelve years, the annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference has been instrumental in encouraging investment, cross-border trade and business partnerships, the role played by executives of major corporations, medium and small-size businesses and entrepreneurs, and deepens the connections with key elected officials.

Your support and that of IBM went a long way to make the conference a success and has fostered on-going growth in business achievements and impactful policy decisions. We appreciate very much the professionalism and enthusiasm you bring to the Conference with your keen participation. The presence and demonstration of real live "IBM Partner" as a result of the conference is a powerful testimony. We do get concrete results and expressed appreciation of new opportunities.

We can assure you that all the key stakeholders, Members of Congress, Heads and Ministers of Government, Elected Officials, Community and Business Leaders are all aware and appreciative of IBM's participation in this very important mission.

This year, the Thirteenth Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in St. Maarten, November 6 - 9, 2008, and promises to further strengthen and expand on the work done by many of the Caribbean countries developing economies, in collaboration with the emerging markets initiatives in the U.S. The quality of the sessions and the high level of participation is now legendary, and is anxiously awaited each year.

Enclosed is a Power Point presentation of the sponsorship opportunities the Conference provides, and also a program and recap of the 2006-2007 Conference. We know of your interest to deepen the IBM local, regional and global connection, and I know the Conference can achieve that. It is our sincere wish that this presentation motivates your sponsorship.

3

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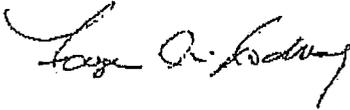
- 2 -

We would be happy to answer any questions you might have or to fill in any detail. I can be reached by e-mail: KBRodney@nycaribnews.com or (212) 944-1991.

Because we know of your busy schedule, I will also follow up with your office to ascertain interest level.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Best regards,



Faye A. Rodney
President



Karl B. Rodney
Publisher/CEO

4

Invoice

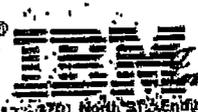
CARIB NEWS INC.
 7 WEST 36TH STREET
 8TH FLOOR
 NEW YORK, 10018
 212-944-1991

Date	Invoice #
7/16/2008	45122

Bill To
Wanda McKenzie IBM 2607 Jesters Court Marietta, GA 30068

Description	Amount
Sponsorship Multi-National Business Conference 2008 TAX ID 13-362060	20,000.00
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;">6</div>	
Total	\$20,000.00

EXP Pieces: 1/1 ORIGIN: ILE	
FM: IB MACO THOLI 0030 N. Johnson C/O ARNOLD LOGISTICS 11400 BURNET RD AUSTIN, TX 78758 UNITED STATES Phone: 512-286-2350 TO: NEW YORK CARIB NEWS, INC. FAYE RODNEY 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10018 UNITED STATES TEL: 212-944-1991	POST CODE: 10018
Description: IBM check Weight: Letter Date: 2008-10-08 DHL standard terms and conditions apply.	(2)JSL0018 JRAC 0T ABH
WAYBILL: 29267255550 (Non-Identification)	

 International Business Machines Corporation 370 North St. Elmhurst, New York 10740-8563	Check Number: 80-887 0003777521
DATE: 2008/08/08	The sum of \$ 20,000.00**
Pay to the order of: NEW YORK CARIB NEWS 7 W 36TH ST 8TH FL NEW YORK, NY 10018 UNITED STATES	Per: <i>Richard J. Conall</i> Authorized signature
J.P. Morgan Chase Bank Branch: NY 1500	

#1795281094749061202 #125777E000*

7

Exhibit 17

Registration

From: plouis [plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 11:00 AM
To: 'Kelly Mobley, Dawn'
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,
In response to your e-mail, the answer to your question is NO.

Regards and Thanks for your patience

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 10:26 AM
To: plouis
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

FYI

From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 2:41 PM
To: plouis
Cc: Kelly Mobley, Dawn; O'Kelly, Bill
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Louis,

Please explain in more detail your email message below relative to the "sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip." In this regard, do the following entities pay for any of the expenses of the trip for the invited House Members, including roundtrip air transportation costs, lodging costs, meal costs, cost of a particular meal or reception, etc.?

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM

10/15/2007

09-2222 0168

- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:37 AM
To: Olson, Susan
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,

In response to your e-mail:

The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation.

As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program

that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Federally registered lobbyists or foreign agents will not be accompanying the Members or participating in the program.

Regards,

Patricia Lobb
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----
From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn.KellyMoblely@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill

10/15/2007

09-2222 0169

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000054

Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's (Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring" sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]," which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

10/15/2007

09-2222 0171

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CN-000056



THE NEW YORK CARIB NEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 22 FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Susan Olsen	FROM: R. Louis
COMPANY: House Ctee on Standards	DATE: 10/12/07
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER
RE: Travel Certification Form	

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Ms. Olsen,
In response to your e-mail -- the Conference is paid for by CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION.

The companies are participants. They are not sponsors or co-sponsors for any part of the trip and play no role in the planning or content.

The program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants.

I regret the misunderstanding and thank you for your patience as I go through and grow through this process, which is new to me.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 1:55 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Confidential

The fax did not come through. I will be stepping out of the office for the remainder of the day, but will be in early Monday. Please follow up again with Susan. I have explained that the organizations you labeled as co-sponsors are not. They support your foundation annually, but have not and will not pay for the Members trip. This is simply a misunderstanding of the terms "sponsor", "contributor", and "participant" as used in the Ethics rules which is why I sent you the Rules book for preparation.

Once you are able to clarify these issues and make sure your itinerary passes top, you should be fine. An Ethics Committee Staff Attorney must review and approve as well. Your Staff Attorney is Susan.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 11:55 AM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Confidential

Have you spoken with your Director and explained the problem so you can call Olson asap?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:59 AM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: FW: Confidential

Please read both emails below. Give Susan a call as soon as you work through the kink, let her know you are following up. Please make yourself available to work through this matter today. Thank you Patricia. (These other organizations can participate in the program but should not help pay for the trip).

From: Olson, Susan
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 9:29 AM
To: O'Reilly, Bill; Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Bill and Dawn,
Please note the following response from Ms. Louis at Carib News. Unfortunately, it appears that if each sponsor contributes funding directly to the trip (an earmark of funds) and not simply to the general funds of Carib News, then the assumption is that all of these entities are co-sponsors of the trip for purposes of the House travel rules. If that is the case and since it is likely that at least one of these co-sponsors hires or retains a federally registered lobbyist, the trip could only be a one-day event trip. Thus the Committee can't approve the trip as it currently exists.

But, if you have a different interpretation of the below information from Ms. Louis, please do let
10/12/2007

09-2222 0173

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000058

me know. Thanks! Susan

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:33 AM
To: Olson, Susan
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Ms. Olson,

In response to your e-mail:

The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation.

As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants

in the
Conference.

No federally registered lobbyist or foreign agent will be accompanying the Members
of
participating in the program.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

----- Original Message -----

From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's

10/12/2007

09-2222 0174

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000059

(Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring" sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]" which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

10/12/2007

09-2222 0175

HT-2, The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7103
Fax: 202-225-7392

10/12/2007

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09-2222 0176

CN-000061



THE NEW YORK CARIB NEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 86TH STREET, 45 FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Dawn Kelly Mobley	FROM: P. Louis
COMPANY: Ethics Counsel for Cong. Stephanie Tubbs Jones	DATE: 10/11/07
FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: Travel Form	

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Further to our conversations of this morning, following is the Travel Certification Form..

The Conference is paid for by the Carib News Foundation. The companies are participants, are not sponsors or co-sponsors for any part of the trip and play no role in the planning or content.

The program has been amended to reflect the companies as Participants.

I regret the mis-understanding and thank you for holding my hand as I go through and grow through this process which is new to me.

Kindly review and advise before I send to Ms. Olsen.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Registration

From: Thomas, Shelley [Shelley.Thomas@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 7:47 AM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

This is new territory since we never had to go through this before. I don't have an answer and I already turned in Donna's forms.

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 5:56 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn; Thomas, Shelley; Dalley, George
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Please see e-mail I received from Ms. Olson of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

A possible response could be: The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Please advise us.

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----
From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's (Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring"

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sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(b)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]," which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson

Counsel

House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103

Fax: 202-225-7392

09-2222 0179

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 6:49 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Her question centers on whether any of these "co-sponsors" retains a lobbyist or foreign. This is the issue you and I focused on previously. It is a central problem if any do and are paying for the events. If so, you are in the same position as last year with one-day events. Call Susan back tomorrow as early as possible. Hopefully, these co-sponsors don't retain lobbyists, but you should have their representations on this matter. At a minimum, Macy's does, right? Alternatively, if they are only sponsoring event tables or the like, a lobbyist will not be problematic.

Sent using BlackBerry

-----Original Message-----

From: plouls <plouls@nycaribnews.com>
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn; Thomas, Shelley; Dalley, George
Sent: Wed Oct 10 17:56:25 2007
Subject: FW: Carib News - Pre-trip Approval Issues

Please see e-mail I received from Ms. Olson of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

A possible response could be: The sponsors contribute to the overall expense of the trip and the general work of the Foundation. As a courtesy, each contributor is given an opportunity to be attached to a part of the program that is being presented. They do not determine the content or the other participants in the Conference.

Please advise us.

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louls

Executive Assistant

CARIBNEWS

7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor

New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Olson, Susan [mailto:Susan.Olson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:01 PM

10/10/07

To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Cc: Dawn Kelly Mobley@mail.house.gov; O'Reilly, Bill
Subject: Carib News - Pre-Trip Approval Issues

Dear Mrs. Louis:

With regard to the pre-trip approval requests for the Carib News Foundation's (Foundation) trip to Antigua, the issues involving sponsorship are as follows:

While the sponsor form that you completed indicates that the Foundation is the sole sponsor of the 2007 trip, the draft schedule, however, indicates that the following entities are "sponsoring" sessions, events, etc. during this trip:

- o Antigua Government
- o Sandals
- o Royal Caribbean Bakery
- o CITI
- o Pfizer
- o Macy's
- o AT&T
- o HSBC
- o IBM
- o Goodworks International
- o Preferred Health Partners
- o Antigua & Barbuda
- o American Airlines
- o Golden Krust

Last year the Foundation provided the following information regarding these "additional sponsors" for the November 9 to 12, 2006 trip:

The Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]" which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

Accordingly, the Committee's Advisory Opinion, dated October 27, 2006, provided that all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip along with the Foundation were required to be listed as the "trip sponsors" on the participating Members' post-travel disclosure form and their 2006 annual financial disclosure statements.

10/10/2007

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Accordingly, you need to provide information describing the role of these "additional sponsors" as listed in the 2007 trip draft schedule for this current trip. Without such information, I cannot proceed with the review of the pre-trip approval requests for the Foundation's Antigua trip.

Susan L. Olson
Counsel
House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
HT-2, The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7103
Fax: 202-225-7392

10/10/2007

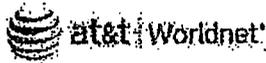
09-2222 0182

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CN-000067

From: Shelley Thomas

Page 1 of 1



[Print] [Close]

From: "Thomas, Shelley" <Shelley.Thomas@mail.house.gov>
"James, Corliss" <Corliss.James@mail.house.gov>, "Long, Karyn" <Karyn.Long@mail.house.gov>,
"Bishop, Mary" <Mary.Bishop@mail.house.gov>, "Chaplin, Jennie"
<Jennie.Chaplin@mail.house.gov>, "Pickens, Crystal" <Crystal.Pickens@mail.house.gov>, "Hamlett,
Bjenell" <Barbara.Hamlett@mail.house.gov>, "Hendricks, Jasper"
<Jasper.Hendricks@mail.house.gov>, "Dalley, Katie" <Katie.Dalley@mail.house.gov>,
"GAO4Scheduling" <GAO4Scheduling@mail.house.gov>, "Murray, Darlene"
<Darlene.Murray@mail.house.gov>, "Fisher, Pat" <Pat.Fisher@mail.house.gov>, "Feathersen,
Wendy" <Wendy.Feathersen@mail.house.gov>, "Pittman, Megan" <MPittman@mail.house.gov>,
To: "King, Lalla" <Lalla.King@mail.house.gov>, "Resendez, Marvene"
<Marvene.Resendez@mail.house.gov>, "Kalinga, Tatyana" <Tatyana.Kalinga@mail.house.gov>,
"Taylor, Gerri" <Gerri.Taylor@mail.house.gov>, "Anderson, Kwamme (Waters)"
<Kwamme.Anderson@mail.house.gov>, "Howle, Elisa" <Elisa.Howle@mail.house.gov>, "Borja,
Angle" <Angle.Borja@mail.house.gov>, "Roddey, Raven" <raven.roddey@mail.house.gov>,
"Waskow, Jean" <Jean.Waskow@mail.house.gov>, "Holmes, Alice M."
<Alice.M.Holmes@mail.house.gov>, "Epps, Nkena" <Nkena.Epps@mail.house.gov>, "Johnson, Aya"
<Aya.Johnson@mail.house.gov>
Cc: <carib-desk@att.net>
Subject: Emailing: 110th rule change page
Date: Thu, 4 Oct 2007 16:36:27 +0000

To the CBC Members who indicated a "yes" or "maybe" in attending the Carib News Foundation Business Conference in Antigua, British West Indies on November 8-11 of 2007, I have attached the web site for the travel form that must be submitted by Members no later than TUESDAY, October 9 to the Ethics Committee. I will be bringing copies of the agenda, as well as copies of the ethics form that Carib News had to complete and submit to Ethics, to all of the offices indicated above, today and tomorrow by noon. If anyone has any questions, please call me at 5-1790. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT MEMBERS HAVE THEIR OFFICIAL PASSPORT, AS WE ARE GOING TO A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

The message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments:

Shortcut to: http://www.house.gov/ethics/110th_rule_change_page.htm

Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled.
<<110th_rule_change_page.url>>

Attachment 1: [110th_rule_change_page.url](#) (application/octet-stream)

09-2222 0183

<http://webmail.sft.net/wmc/n/wm/47056C17000D0D2F00002DBD2160376223059C0A0B...> 10/4/2007

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CN-000068

New Travel Regulations, Forms, and Instructions (effective March 1, 2007):

The House Rules for the 110th Congress changed the travel rules for Members, staff, and outside sponsors. Regulations, forms, and instructions governing privately-sponsored travel taking place after March 1, 2007 are available below. An Advisory Memorandum providing additional guidance regarding travel was released on March 15, 2007. New versions of the forms relating to privately-sponsored travel were released April 6, 2007.

- Travel Guidelines and Regulations
- Instructions and Certification Form to be filled out by Private Sponsors
- Traveler Form to be filled out by Members, Officers, and Employees
- Post-Travel Disclosure Form for Members and Officers
- Post-Travel Disclosure Form for Employees

Please note: Both the Private Sponsor Certification and the Member/Officer/Employee Traveler Forms must be filed with the Committee at the same time in order to process your request.

New Gift Rule Changes:

The House Rules for the 110th Congress amended House Rule 25, clause 5 (the "gift rule") with respect to the acceptance of gifts and travel. Some of the guidance on this website regarding gifts and travel may therefore no longer apply. On February 6, 2007, the Committee issued an advisory memorandum on the changes to the gift rule. On May 24, 2007, the House amended the gift rule exception concerning the acceptance of offers of free attendance at charity events. In view of the amendment, on June 14, 2007, the Committee issued a revised memorandum that incorporates the change to the rule. Please contact Committee staff at 202-225-7103 with any questions.

Financial Interests under New Earmark Rules

The House Rules for the 110th Congress changed the Code of Official Conduct regarding earmarks. This provision requires that a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner who requests an earmark or a limited tax or tariff benefit to provide certain information regarding the request and its purpose to the committee of jurisdiction. An Advisory Memorandum providing guidance in this matter was released on March 27, 2007.

Registration

From: Smith, Hilary [Hilary.Smith@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2007 4:32 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Travel Approval Forms for Antigua Trip

Patricia,

Here is what I need fixed --

12 -- Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting this trip -- The answer should say something about how Carib News organized, planned, pulled together the invitee list and chose the destination.

13 -- Describe the organizational interest -- It is the Carib News Annual conference.

The revised forms, along with the list of invitees, should be sent to each invitee to then send to the committee so that we do not receive the wrong forms from the Congressional offices. Let me know if you have any questions.

Hilary Smith

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

HT-2, The Capitol

Washington, DC 20515

202-225-7103

10/4/2007

09-2222 0185

CN-000070

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2007 2:02 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Please read query below

Ignore the last email b/c we are working to meet the 30-day submission. Just stand by so we can get back in touch today; have it all resolved tomorrow. Monday is a holiday.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2007 12:39 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Please read query below

Thank you. We have assigned your review to Staff Attorney Susan Olson. Please reach her by phone at 202/226-8808 next week if she has not reached out to you. She will need a few days of review. Thank you very much.

From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 6:40 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Please read query below

The Conference dates are November 8-11, 2007 and opens on Thursday November 8 and ends the morning of November 11, 2007- (3 nights)

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is the Sponsor of the event.

Item No. 12: The companies like Pfizer, AT&T are donors/contributors of grants to the Foundation for educational purposes and NOT the SPONSOR, consequently I assume the information contained in that item will have to be changed.

Awaiting your advice.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 38th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

~~Original Message~~
From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM

10/3/2007

09-2222 0186

Registration

From: plouis [plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 6:40 PM
To: 'Kelly Mobley, Dawn'
Subject: RE: Please read query below

The Conference dates are November 8-11, 2007; and opens on Thursday November 8 and ends the morning of November 11, 2007. (3 nights)

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is the Sponsor of the event.

Item No. 12: The companies like Pfizer, AT&T are donors/contributors of grants to the Foundation for educational purposes and NOT the SPONSOR, consequently I assume the information contained in that item will have to be changed.

Awaiting your advice.

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM
To: plouis
Subject: RE: Please read query below

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:08 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Query

We are trying to work through a problem in approving the co-sponsors piece. Are they each paying for a one-day, widely attended event or more days? Please read the Gift Rules I forwarded you on this matter.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2007 12:42 PM
To: plouis

10/1/2007

09-2222 0187

CN-000072

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Please forward the paperwork as well to the Chairwoman's personal office so her scheduler can complete the work from that office. Please get it to Lalla King today, Her fax number is 202/225-1339. She has to complete the Member's forms and meet the same deadline.

From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 6:40 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Please read query below

The Conference dates are November 8-11, 2007, and opens on Thursday November 8 and ends the morning of November 11, 2007- (3 nights)

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is the Sponsor of the event.

Item No. 12: The companies like Pfizer, AT&T are donors/contributors of grants to the Foundation for educational purposes and NOT the SPONSOR, consequently I assume the information contained in that item will have to be changed.

Awaiting your advice.

Regards

Patricia Loris
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Please read query below

09-2222 0188

CN-000073

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Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:10 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Please read query below

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2007 5:08 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: RE: Query

We are trying to work through a problem in approving the co-sponsors piece. Are they each paying for a one-day, widely attended event or more days? Please read the Gift Rules I forwarded you on this matter.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2007 12:42 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: Query

I am working through your forms before leaving them with our staff attorney and have a question. Query: Why did you not list CARIB NEWS as the sponsor as you'd indicated instead of Macy's, etc. The official sponsor for travel, lodging, and planning is still Carib News, correct?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2007 12:57 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007 Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

When you send the draft agenda, please also forward any information on your sponsor's status. If he cannot be a lobbyist. Do you need a copy of the new travel rules?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 5:53 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007 Business Conference

Nothing was attached to this email. Therefore, we have not received the proposed agenda you mention below and have nothing to preview.

From: plouls [mailto:plouls@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 3:47 PM
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Subject: Draft Program - 2007 Business Conference

Ms. Mobley:
We spoke earlier re permission for Members to attend the Conference and you asked for

09-2222 0189

The program, I have not gotten back to you because we have been working on getting the program together.
Attached is the draft for your guidance.

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018.

10/11/00

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09-2222 0190

CN-000075



THE NEW YORK CARIBNEWS

THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 WEST 36TH STREET, 4TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Dawn Kelly Mobley	FROM: Patricia Louis
COMPANY:	DATE: 9/21/07
TAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
RE: SPONSOR FORMS	

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Following is a completed form for your advisement /review/comments:

Regards

09-2222 0191

CN-000076

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

Carb News Foundation

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): _____
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary); each representative spouse is invited or one family member: _____
6. Dates of travel: November 8-11, 2007
7. Cities of departure - destination - return: Varies depending on member
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was de minimis under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
 - a. One night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two nights' lodging and meals are being offered:If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

09-2222 0192

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: Pfizer-Education/Health AT&T and IBM: provide technology to the region. MAOY's - seeks new vendor sources, Citibank- opportunities in the region.

13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: Regular scheduled air service, economy class.

14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted.

15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):

16. I represent that either (check one of the following):

a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: or

b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation:

If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided):

17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: A Caribbean country that has not previously hosted the conference.

18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: Sandals Resort/Rex Resort

19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$110.00

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: Has appropriate meeting rooms.

21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	320	330	195
For each accompanying family member:	320	0	195

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee:		
For each accompanying family member:		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____
 Name and title: _____
 Organization: _____
 Address: _____
 Telephone number: _____
 Fax number: _____
 Email Address: _____

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
 U.S. House of Representatives
 HT-2, The Capitol
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)
 (202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT THE PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL
CERTIFICATION FORM

1. *Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip):* Fill in the names of each person, organization, or other entity contributing funds or in-kind support towards the trip.
2. *I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent:* House Members and staff may not accept travel funded by a lobbyist or registered foreign agent, even when the lobbyist or foreign agent will be reimbursed by a client or employer.
3. *I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip:* All financial contributors to the trip must qualify as sponsors and should be listed as a sponsor in response to question 1.
4. *Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?* Check yes or no. House Rules permit Members and House staff to accept travel benefits for one accompanying family member if offered by the trip sponsor.
5. *Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited:* You must list every House Member and employee who is invited on the trip, together with your reason for inviting that individual. Members and House staff may accept privately sponsored travel only when related to the individual's official duties. The explanation should demonstrate a connection between the trip and each invitee's official duties.
6. *Dates of Travel:* State the dates of departure and return.
7. *Cities of departure - destination - return:* For example, an appropriate entry might read: "DC - Detroit - DC". Include additional destinations if there will be more than one. Do not list the names of airports, times of flights, or cities where travelers will have an airport layover (this information should be included in the attached detailed agenda).
8. *Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel:* The agenda should be a detailed, hour-by-hour agenda. Include the names of speakers and the subjects of briefings. The agenda should also include information regarding the time spent on travel to and from the destination, as well as local travel. Travel will not be approved if the agenda includes an excessive amount of either unscheduled time and/or opportunities for recreational activities, even if such activities are at the personal expense of the invitees.

9. *I represent that (check one of the following):* Check only one box in response to this question. "Institutions of higher education" generally includes accredited public and private colleges or trade schools located in the U.S. and its territories; such entities should check box "a," regardless of whether they employ or retain a federal lobbyist or foreign agent. Entities other than institutions of higher education that do not employ or retain a federal lobbyist or foreign agent should check box "b." Entities other than institutions of higher education that do employ or retain a registered lobbyist or foreign agents may sponsor travel only for one-day events. For such trips, lobbyist involvement must be "de minimis" as defined by Committee regulations (see question 12).
10. *If travel is for participation in a one-day event, check one of the following:* Complete this question only if you checked box "c" in response to question 9. For travel to one-day events sponsored by an entity that retains or employs a lobbyist, lodging and meals generally may be provided only for one night. However, two nights may be authorized by the Committee in accordance with the factors set forth in Committee regulations.
11. *If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip:* House Rules prohibit Members and employees from being accompanied by registered lobbyists or foreign agents while traveling. This rule does not prohibit lobbyist or foreign agent participation in briefings or meetings that occur at the destination.
12. *Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:* The sponsor(s) (the entity or entities paying for the trip) should be the entity primarily responsible for organizing the trip. Travel may not be accepted from an entity that merely contributes money towards the travel and is not otherwise involved in planning or conducting the trip.
13. *Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip:* Briefly describe the interest or purpose of each sponsor in the trip.
14. *Describe the type and class of transportation being provided:* See directions on form.
15. *I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s):* While Members and staff may accept local transportation necessary in facilitating their participation in officially-connected aspects of a trip, Members and staff may not accept local transportation in connection with recreation or entertainment.
16. *I represent that either:* For events that are arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation (e.g., annual meetings of business or trade associations), Members or employees may accept the meals that are provided to all other attendees as part of the event. For events put on specifically for Members or staff, meal expenses must be "reasonable" in accordance with Committee regulations.

17. *Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:* The destination of a trip must be related to its purpose. Travel to a location of an event organized without regard to congressional participation (for example, annual meetings of business or trade associations) is presumptively reasonable.
18. *Name of hotel or other lodging facility:* Include the names of all hotels and lodging facilities to be used during the trip.
19. *Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility:* Self-explanatory. Trip sponsors should not pay for a "package" that includes recreational or entertainment activities. However, Members and staff may generally use a pool or gym facilities that are offered free of charge to all hotel guests.
20. *Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:* For events held without regard to congressional participation (e.g., annual meetings of business or trade associations), an entry such as "location of annual trade association meeting" is sufficient. When the trip is held specifically for Members or staff, include rationale such as proximity to the site to be visited or to the airport.
21. *Total Expenses for Each Participant:* Indicate whether the figures provided are actual amounts or good faith estimates by checking the appropriate box. All trip expenses should be included. Expenses other than those for transportation, lodging and meals must be individually listed and specified.
22. *I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip:* Members and staff may not accept a lump sum based on an estimate of incidental expenses.
23. *Certification Information:* Self-explanatory.

THE TRIP SPONSOR SHOULD PROVIDE A COPY OF THE COMPLETED FORM, INCLUDING ALL ATTACHMENTS, TO EACH HOUSE MEMBER OR EMPLOYEE INVITED ON THE TRIP.

Version date 4/2007 Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

U.S. House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT
Washington, DC 20515

October 27, 2006

Ms. Michele Rodney
Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10018

Dear Ms. Rodney:

This responds to your letter requesting Committee guidance concerning the participation of House Members in the 11th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference ("Conference") sponsored by the Carib News Foundation ("Foundation"), and other organizations. The conference is scheduled to take place in Panama City, Panama from November 9 to 12, 2006. According to your submission, the Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be paying for the Members' travel expenses including transportation, meals, and lodging. The background materials for the Conference also indicate that the additional trip sponsors provide a "contribution to the overall pool of expenses in contribution to the [Foundation]," which is used to "underwrite the overall expenses of the Conference," primarily for meal expenses. These materials further provide that these additional sponsors have representatives from their organization who will be attending and participating in the Conference.

The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct strongly encourages outside organizations considering whether to offer travel expenses to House Members and staff to contact our offices for information about the rules governing the acceptance of such an offer. It is important to bear in mind, however, that the Committee is authorized by the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives to render advisory opinions to Members, officers, and employees regarding the propriety of current or proposed conduct. We do not render such opinions to private organizations. Particularly in the case of travel, it is the Member, officer, or employee who is at risk in the case of a violation of the rules. Given the different circumstances in which individual Members and employees find themselves, it would be inappropriate for an outside organization to suggest that a trip had been "pre-cleared" by the Committee. However, we are able to provide you with some general information.

¹ According to your submission, the additional trip sponsors include Macy's, J&J, Pfizer, AT&T, Golden Kiosk Franchise, American Airlines, Citibank, IBM, Panama City, and the Republic of Panama.

09-2222 0198

900/800

NEWS NEWS

08/20/2008 03:14 FAX

Ms. Michele Rodney
 October 27, 2006
 Page 2

House Rule 25, clause 5 (the gift rule) permits a Member or employee of the House to accept from a private source (other than a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal) the necessary travel expenses to attend a meeting, speaking engagement, fact-finding trip, or similar event in connection with official duties, if the private source is directly and immediately associated with the event or location being visited. "Necessary" expenses include reasonable expenses for transportation, lodging, food, and refreshments, but they do not include expenditures for entertainment or recreational activities.

Generally, any gifts that may be offered during the trip, including any gifts of entertainment or recreational activity, must be valued at a total of less than \$50 for the trip, with the annual gift limit of less than \$100 from a single source. On any trip, the aggregate value of any such gifts that may be accepted from any source is less than \$50.

In the case of international travel, necessary expenses may be accepted for not more than seven days, excluding travel. House Members may also accept expenses to enable one family member to accompany them on the trip, if offered by the trip sponsor. In addition, each Member who participates in the trip must complete a Travel Disclosure and file the form with the Clerk of the House within 30 days after their return. See House Rule 25, cl. 5(b)(1)(A)(ii), (b)(3). Members are also required to report all travel expenses totaling more than \$305 from a single source on Schedule VII of their annual Financial Disclosure Statement under the Ethics in Government Act and House Rule 26. On both forms, Members should indicate as the "trip sponsors" all of the organizations that provided financial underwriting for the trip.

Because the trip will involve meetings with foreign government representatives and the trip sponsors include the Republic of Panama and Panama City, it is important to note that government officials, including Members and employees of Congress, are prohibited by Article I, section 9, clause 8, of the United States Constitution from receiving "any present ... of any kind whatever" from a foreign state or a representative of a foreign government without the consent of the Congress. In the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (5 U.S.C. § 7342) ("FGDA"), Congress has consented in advance to acceptance of gifts of travel or expenses for travel taking place entirely outside of the United States offered by a foreign government. Gifts of travel or expenses for travel include food, lodging, transportation, and entertainment related to the official duties of a Member, officer, or employee. Congress has also consented to the acceptance of gifts "of minimal value tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy." 5 U.S.C. § 7342(e)(1)(A). Under this provision and implementing regulations issued by this Committee, the term "minimal value" is defined as \$305. The FGDA also permits Members and staff to accept a gift worth more than minimal value when refusal would cause offense or embarrassment; such gifts are the property of the United States and must be deposited with the Clerk of the House. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value or travel expenses of any value received from a foreign government pursuant to FGDA must be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments, in addition to the

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08/20/2006 08:43 FAX

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000084

Ms. Michele Rodney
October 27, 2006
Page 2.

travel disclosure form described above. Copies of both forms are available on the Committee Web site.

Any House Member invited to travel at private expense should be encouraged to contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at (202) 225-7103 if they have any questions on the applicable rules. Please provide a copy of this letter to each invited Member.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,


Doc Hastings
Chairman


Howard L. Berman
Ranking Minority Member

DE/HLB: slo

09-2222 0200

0004/004

SACEN @RVJ

03/20/2009 09:33 FAX



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10018
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

October 16, 2006

The Honorable Doc Hastings
Chair
Standards of Official Conduct
Rm. HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Via Fax: 202-225-7392 & US Mail

Dear Committee Chair Hastings:

As you might be aware, The Carib News Foundation, created to provide a forum for businesses from the United States to dialogues and establish business partnerships with communities in other parts of the world, has invited Members of Congress to participate in the 11th anniversary of the Caribbean Business Conference.

This year the conference will be held in Panama City, Panama from November 9 – 12, 2006. In cooperation with the Government of Panama, our goal is to have all interested parties joining forces to foster an atmosphere of democracy, stability and opportunity for our fellow citizens of the world. It will also allow businesses in the United States to introduce their products to a new market, thus adding to the economy of both countries.

It is important for Members of Congress to attend in order to get insights into the global economy and how current law and proposed legislation can add in assisting their constituents to move towards a global exchange:

To this effort, The Carib News Foundation and its Board of Directors, respectfully request approval for the Members to attend. If there are any questions or concerns, you may contact me at 212-944-1991. I look forward to making this event as successful in its 11th year as it has been in the past 10 conferences.

Sincerely,

Michelo Rodney
President
Carib News Foundation

cc: Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs-Jones

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C-3 corporation

09-2222 0201

002/005

CARIB NEWS

03/20/2009 08:48 FAX

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000086

Registration

From: plouis [plouis@nycaribnews.com]
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2007 1:56 PM
To: 'Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Re Sponsorship Information

The official sponsor of the conference is the **CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION**, a not-for-profit 501C3 Organization that provides educational information about the Caribbean Region and its relationship with the US in doing business and developing good neighborly ties with the United States, security, health, education etc.

The **CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION** does not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent.

Please use me as your contact for the purposes of this Conference.

The form will be emailed to you this afternoon.

Regards

Patricia Louis

Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

09-2222 0202

9/21/2007

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000087

Re: Sponsorship information

Page 1 of 1

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 6:32 PM
To: plouis@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Sponsorship information

My condolences. No, we did not know of their loss. Is Mr. Rodney our actual contact in this matter? If so when appropriate, please impress upon him that the rules have changed dramatically and there are certain gifts and travel that can no longer be permitted so we need to clear this as early as possible. Moreover as he probably remembers, all Members have to seek approval for their individual travel...forms must be prepared, submitted, and approved for each Member's travel. Therefore, please remember to provide each of your invitees with the requisite paperwork. Hopefully by preparing early, we can circumvent the majority of problems you faced in securing their congressional travel last year. Have a good evening and please share my condolences with the Rodneys. Dawn

Sent using BlackBerry

-----Original Message-----

From: plouis <plouis@nycaribnews.com>
To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wed Sep 19 18:23:58 2007
Subject: Sponsorship information

9/20/2007

09-2222 0203

CONFIDENTIAL

CN-000088

Registration

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 3:23 PM
To: plouls
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Lastly, just send the sponsor form asap for review. The new rules might prohibit some things you were able to do with so many different sponsors in the past, but until we get the form, we can't make the most informed decision. I have let the Congresswomen know we are awaiting your sponsor form. Just as you do, they would also like assurance. Thank you.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 3:09 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

I am mailing (US Postal) a copy of the official Gifts and Travel Guide. Some pages are omitted so call with any questions not addressed in the bound pages. I am using the address you provide in your emails.

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 2:16 PM
To: 'plouls'
Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

Patricia:

I understand that several organizations will take part in sponsoring food and other parts of the Antigua travel. However, I need clarification on the official sponsor; that organization providing travel, lodging, and organizing the trip? Am I to assume it is CARIB NEWS? The official sponsoring organization must not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent (and the sponsor must have a direct and immediate relationship with the event or location being visited). To assist with this, I am scanning information/guidelines and emailing in just a moment. Please provide a fax number if that method of submittal will be more helpful. If there is someone handling this matter, please provide me their direct contact information as I must ensure adherence to these new guidelines pre-travel.

In any event, I do need to know who the official sponsor will be. I have assigned a staff attorney to review your documents and will remain in contact with you until this matter is finalized.

Please respond today or tomorrow at the latest. I will be traveling for a while thereafter and must ensure that my staff attorney has all that is necessary for a safe review.

Dawn Kelly Mobley
Ethics Counsel for Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones
Chairwoman, Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
202/226-7103

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2007 7:03 PM
To: plouls@nycaribnews.com
Subject: Re: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

~~None of these organizations may retain a lobbyist~~

Sent using BlackBerry

09-2222 0204

We had received the forms from Shelley.
The sponsors to date are : MACYS, PFIZER, AMERICAN AIRLINES, GOLDEN KRUST
BAKERY, CARIBBEAN FOOD DELIGHTS, PREFERRED HEALTH PARTNERS, IBM,
AT&T/CINGULAR

Regards

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn [mailto:Dawn.KellyMobley@mail.house.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2007 12:57 PM

To: plouis

Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference (No agenda or program attached)

When you send the draft agenda, please also forward any information on your sponsor's status.
If/he cannot be a lobbyist. Do you need a copy of the new travel rules?

From: Kelly Mobley, Dawn

Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 5:53 PM

To: 'plouis'

Subject: RE: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference

Nothing was attached to this email. Therefore, we have not received the proposed agenda you mention below and have nothing to preview.

From: plouis [mailto:plouis@nycaribnews.com]

Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 3:47 PM

To: Kelly Mobley, Dawn

Subject: Draft Program - 2007Business Conference

Ms. Mobley:

We spoke earlier re permission for Members to attend the Conference and you asked for
The program. I have not gotten back to you because we have been working on getting
the program together.

Attached is the draft for your guidance

Regards and Thanks

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
CARIB NEWS
7 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

9/20/2007

09-2222 0205

CN-000090

CONFIDENTIAL

Exhibit 18

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): EACH REPRESENTATIVE'S SPOUSE
6. Dates of travel: NOVEMBER 8 - 11, 2007
7. Cities of departure -- destination -- return: VARIES DEPENDING ON MEMBER
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
- The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
- One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered:
- If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

- 11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
- 12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (SEE ATTACHED SHEET)
- 13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: THE INTEREST OF CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION IS TO PROMOTE, INFORMATION, TRADE AND MEANINGFUL CONNECTION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE CARIBBEAN
- 14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted: REGULAR SCHEDULED AIR SERVICE, ECONOMY CLASS
- 15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):
- 16. I represent that either (check one of the following):
 - a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: or
 - b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation:
 If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____
- 17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: A CARIBBEAN COUNTRY THAT HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY HOSTED THE CONFERENCE
- 18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: SANDALS RESORT/REX RESORT
- 19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$1,000
- 20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: HAS APPROPRIATE MEETING ROOMS

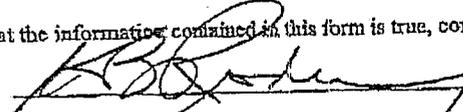
21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	320	330	115
For each accompanying family member	320	0	115

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee		
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

Address: 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10018

Telephone number: 212-944-1991

Fax number: 212-944-2089

Email Address: CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
 U.S. House of Representatives
 HT-2, The Capitol
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)
 (202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

2007 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE			
NOVEMBER 8 -11, 2007			
INVITED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS			
Sanford Bishop			
G. K. Butterfield			
Donna M. Christensen			
William Lacy Clay			
Sheila Jackson Lee			
Eddie Bernice Johnson			
Kendrick Meek			
Donald Payne			
Charles Rangel			
Bennie Thompson			
Stephanie Tubbs-Jones			
Carolyn Kilpatrick			
Barbara Lee			
Gregory Meeks			
Edolphus Towns			
Yvette Clarke			
Maxine Waters			
James Clyburn			
David Scott			
Laura Richardson			
Eleanor Holmes-Norton			
Elijah Cummings			
Diane Watson			
Keith Ellison			
Henry Johnson			
Melvin Watt			
Albert Wynn			
John Lewis			

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James Clyburn			
David Scott			
Laura Richardson			
Eleanor Holmes-Norton			
Elijah Cummings			
Diane Watson			
Keith Ellison			
Henry Johnson			
Melvin Watt			
Albert Wynn			
John Lewis			
Britt Weinstock			
George Dalley			



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991 Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

Exhibit 19

WORKING DRAFT

12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National

Business Conference Program

Antigua & Barbuda

Thursday November 18, 2007

12:00 noon - 6:00 pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Venue

WTO - RULES BASED TRADE & POVERTY REDUCTION

Speakers

Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Hon. Dr. Errol Cort - Minister of Finance & The Economy

Moderator

Wallace Ford

Facilitator

MEC Internus

Sponsor

ED

6:30- 7:30pm

OPENING RECEPTION

Venue

Sandals Grande

Theme

CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES

Sponsor

Antigua Government

MC: Sabrina Hosang

Speakers: Pate A. Rodney - President CARIB NEWS

7:30 - 9:30 pm Hon. Yvonne Clarke - Member of Congress

Venue: Sandals Grande

COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Sponsor: SANDALS

Moderator: Hon. Nick Perry, New York State Assemblyman

Speakers: Hon. Burt Stewart, Chairman, Sandals

Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress
Hon. Harold Lowell - Minister of Tourism & Aviation

Entertainment:

10:00pm - 1:00am Hospitality Area

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsors: Royal Caribbean Bakery

Friday, November 9, 2007

8:00am - 8:45am BREAKFAST - Buffet Style

9:00am - 6:00pm CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

9:00am - 10:15am OPENING CEREMONIES

Venue: Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES, COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Sponsor: CATHY HERMANO-SALAT

Invocation:

AntheM:

Speakers:

Eric Ewe

Karen Boykin-Towns

Ed Goldberg

Marie Long

Hazel Dukas - NAACP

Greggings

Speakers: Hon. Errol Cort - Minister of Finance & The Economy

Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress

Ambassador Andrew Young

Hon. Louise Lake Tack - Governor General of Antigua

OR

Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Ribbon Cutting

10:30am -11:45am - PRESENTATION

Theme: DEVELOPMENT BANKS, PRIVATE DEBT AND EQUITY

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsors

CITI

Chair/Moderator

Jacqueline Banks

Speaker

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Hon. William Lacy Clay - Member of Congress

Hon. Compton Bourne - President, CDB

Caribbean Minister of Finance - STB

12:00noon - 1:15pm

Theme: NATIONAL SECURITY : A PRE-CONDITION FOR SUCCESS

Venue :

Sandals Grande

Sponsors:

IISBC

Moderator:

Dr. Basil Wilson

Remarks:

Reginald Canal

Keynote Speaker

Hon. Bennie Thompson - Member of Congress

Panelists:

Hon. William Lacy Clay Jr. - Member of Congress

Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Hon. Colin V. A. Derrick - Minister of Justice

Attorney Sanford Rubenstein

12:00noon-1:15pm

THEME: U.S. AND CARIBBEAN BUSINESS

OVERCOME - CHALLENGES

Sponsors

IBM

Remarks - Marilyn Johnson

Speakers

Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President Medgar Evers College

Hon. Donald Payne - Member of Congress

Hon. Bernard Joseph

Hon. G. K. Butterfield - Member of Congress

1:30-2:00 p.m.

LUNCH

Theme

CARIBBEAN TRADE COMPETITIVENESS AND POSITIONING

Venue

Sandals Grande

Sponsors

Goodworks International

Remarks

Carlton Masters

Keynote Speaker -

Hon. Billie Miller - Minister of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade

Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

3:00pm - 4:00pm

ROUND TABLES

IMMIGRATION

Venue:

Moderator:

Dr. Marco Mason

Speakers:

Hon. Sheila Jackson Lee - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Sponsor:

Royal Caribbean Cruises

DIVERSITY IN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

MACY'S - Outside Vendors

Ed Goldberg

Cheyl Monroe

State Senator Kevin Parker

City Councilmember Al Vanu

Sponsor

MACY'S

HAITI - IN TRANSFORMATION

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvonne Graham

Preferred Health Partners

PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES

Moderator : Lance Ogiste

Hon. Bennie Thompson

Dr. Basil Wilson

Venue

Sponsor

Preferred Health Partners

Speakers

Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress

Hon. Eliot Engel - Member of Congress

CARICOM Rep. - TBD

Venue

Sponsor

Goodworks International

Speaker

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress
CARICOM REP. - TBD

4:00pm - 5:30pm

Venue

Off Site

Theme

HEALTH - COMMON ISSUES - PROVEN SOLUTIONS

Sponsor

Pfizer

Remarks

Karen Boykin-Towns

Moderator

Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

Keynote Speakers: Dr. Denizl Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Hon. Dr. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Hon. John Milderbert Maynard - Minister of Health, Sports & Youth

Dr. Dexter McKenzie

Facilitator: MEC Intern

ED

6:30:00pm - 10:00 pm HOST-COUNTRY EVENING

Hosted by Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer

MANDATORY FOR ALL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO ATTEND

Venue: Off Site

Sponsor: Antigua & Barbuda

10:00pm - 1:00am Hospitality Area

Venue: Sandals Grande

Sponsor: Golden Krust

Saturday, November 10, 2007

8:00am - 10:00am

Venue: Sandals Grande

Theme: WOMEN AND EMPOWERMENT IN THE DIASPORA

Sponsors: MACYS

Remarks - Brenda Scott - Macy's

MC - Marilyn Johnson

Speakers - Michelle Obama (invited)

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Hon. Diane Abbot - Member of Parliament, UK

Baroness Patricia Scotland - Attorney General, UK (invited)

Harriet Michel - President, NMSDC

Governor General - Dame Janina Patik

10:15am - 11:45pm - PRESENTATION

Theme - HEALTH - REAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN UPGRADING

CARE AND DELIVERY

Venue - Sandals Grande

Sponsors - Pfizer

Co-sponsors - Karen Boykin-Towns - Pfizer

Chair/Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham

Keynote - Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Panelists - Dr. Dexter McKenzie

Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress

Dr. Lesly Kernisant

Dr. Marcia Bayne-Smith

Caribbean person - TBD

10:15am - 11:45am

Theme

TRAVEL & TOURISM - EXPANSION - THE DIASPORA

CATALYST

Venue

Sponsors

AMERICAN AIRLINES/SANDALS

Chair/Moderator

Ellyrd Williams

Speakers

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress

Hon. Keith Ellison - Member of Congress

Hon. Allan Chastant - Minister of Tourism, St. Lucia

Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Tourism, Antigua & Barbuda

10:15 am - 11:45 am

PRESENTATION

Theme

TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION - SHARING

Venue

Sandals Grande

Sponsors

AT&T

Remarks

Manie Long

Keynote Speakers

Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Dr. Edmond Mansoon - Member of State

12:00noon - 1:15pm

Theme: INTEGRATING THE DIASPORA IN BUSINESS INVESTORS
MANAGERS, MENTORS & TRAINERS

Venue:

Sandals Grande

Sponsor:

HSBC

Remarks:

JAVIER VALE

Speakers:

Hon. Compton Abouie

Dr. Roy Harris

Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress

Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress

Hon. William Lacy Clay Jr. - Member of Congress

1:30pm - 2:30pm

LUNCHEON

Theme:

FINANCIAL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND

AND ROLE

Sponsors:

CITI

Remarks:

Michael Hannigan

Speakers:

Eric Iye - CITI

Hon. William Thompson, New York City Comptroller

2:30pm - 6:30pm

Optional:

3:00pm - 4:00pm

ROUND TABLE

Round Table #1

Venue

THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITARIAN MATH CARIBBEAN UNION

Venue

Sponsors - Prefecture of Guilt

Remarks - Dr. Lesly Kermissin

Speakers - Dr. Dexter McKenzie

Dr. Lorna McBarrette

Round Table#2

Theme - HEMISPHERIC DISASTER FUND

Speakers - Hon. Danny Davis - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Dr. Roy Hashick

Venue

Sponsor

Round Table#3

Theme - CLOSING THE GENERATION GAP

Hon. Kendrick Meek - Member of Congress

Karlisa Rodney

Lita Balram

Sabrina Hosang

Windhope Wellington

Venue

Sponsor

Roundtable #1

Theme - PASSPORT & ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRAINTS ON TOURISM

Venue

Sponsor : American Airlines

Speakers

Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress
Hon. Harold Lowell - Minister of Tourism
Mr. Lloyd Williams

Sponsor : CARIB NEWS

4:00pm - 5:30pm

COMMUNITY OUTREACH -

EDUCATION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION

Venue : Off Site

Sponsor : CTTI

Moderator : Michael Flanagan

Speakers : Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College

Hon. Danny Davis - Member of Congress

Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress

Hon. Bertrand Joseph

Facilitator : M.C. Antem

FD

6:30 - 7:30pm GALA RECEPTIONS

Venue:

AT&T-HSBC

Sponsors:

Hon. Billie Miller, Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Minister of Government, Antigua

Theme:

7:30 - 10:00 pm : GALA DINNER & AWARDS

Venue :

CITYMACY'S/PEIZER

Sponsors :

Speakers :

Hon. Charles Rangil - Member of Congress
Hon. James Clyburn - Member of Congress

Keynote Speaker : Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Presentation of the Marcus Garvey "Bridge Builder" Awards

Hospitality Area

10:30pm - 1:00am

Venue:

Sponsor: Royal Caribbean Bakery

Sunday-November-11-2007

8:30 am - 10:00am

POWER BREAKFAST

Theme:

UNDERSTANDING THE SPIRITUAL ROOTS AND MAKING IT WORK

Sponsors:

Golden Krust/Macy's

Celebrant:

Ed Goldberg
Lowell Hawthorne

Caribbean person - TBD

Selection

Theme:

Selection:

11:00am |

Paid Trip to Montserrat - Transportation (Ferry) - Lunch and Special Tour. Addressed by Chief Minister Lowell Lewis

8:00 pm |

10/3/07

~~OFF-PUBLIC SCHEDULE - MANDATORY FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS~~

~~Friday November 9, 2007~~

~~5:30 - 6:30 pm - Private Welcome Reception with Governor General~~

~~Saturday November 10, 2007~~

~~US GARIBOLDI RECEPTIONS~~

~~11:00 a.m. - 1:00 pm - Closed Door Meeting
(Mandatory for all Members)~~

~~Prime Ministers & Ministers of Government
with Members of Congress
Secretary of State - Condoleezza Rice (Invited)~~

~~5:30 pm - 6:30 pm - Private Meeting with Local Elected Officials and
the Business Community~~

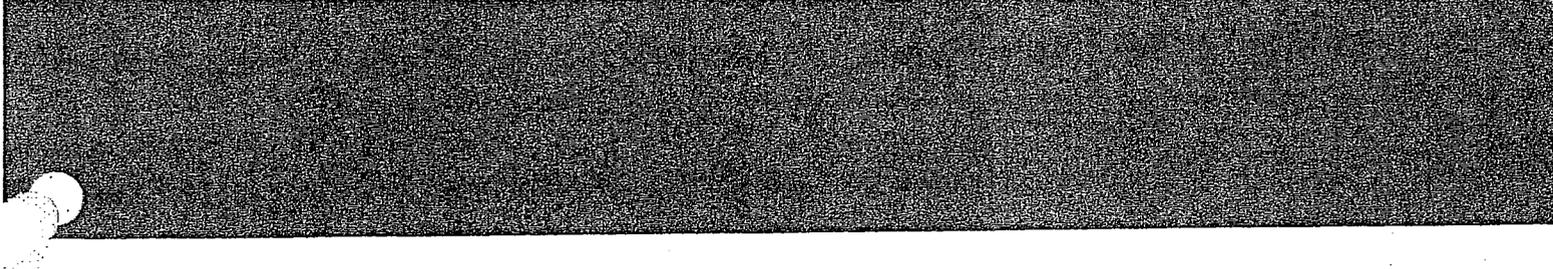
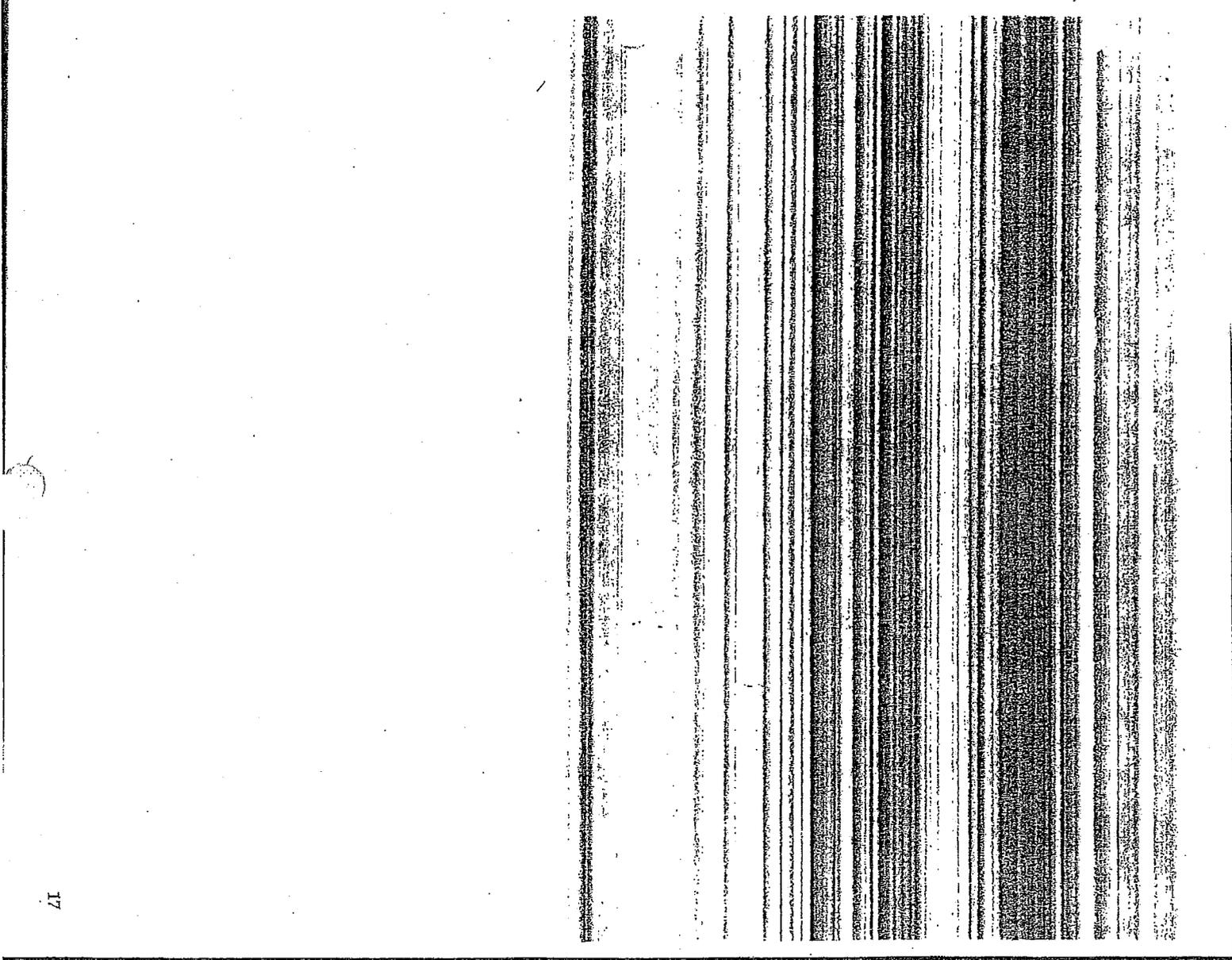
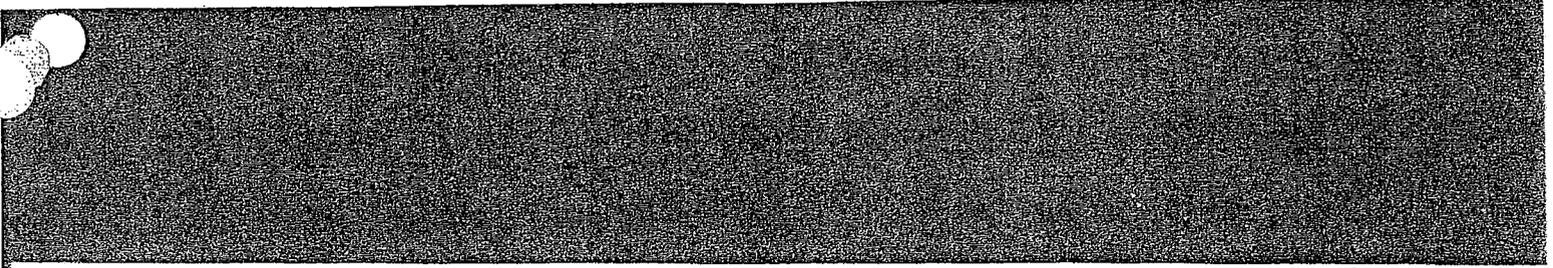


Exhibit 20

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Representative 1 from Macy's
Review #: 09-6333; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-2222
Date: May 27, 2009
Location: 11 Penn Plaza
New York, NY 10001
Time: 11:10pm to 12:00 p.m. (approximately)
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: Representative 1 from Macy's is the Senior Vice President of Government and Consumer Affairs and Diversity Vendor Development at Macy's, Inc. He was interviewed pursuant to Review 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. We requested an interview with Representative 1 from Macy's and he consented to an interview. Representative 1 from Macy's made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Representative 1 from Macy's was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. Representative 1 from Macy's signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. [attached]
2. Representative 1 from Macy's met Karl and Faye Rodney in 1996. As a result of the large Caribbean Community in New York City and Macy's commercial interests in the Caribbean region, Representative 1 from Macy's asked Macy's advertising division to consider the CaribNews newspaper.
3. The first conference he attended was in 1998 in St. Lucia. He attended as a participant. At the time, Macy's was considering a store in Puerto Rico and so Representative 1 from Macy's was especially interested in business in the region. He was impressed by how many government officials from the Caribbean region were present at the conference and by what they had to say about developing relationships with the United States.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

4. In the ensuing years, Macy's became a sponsor. The conference was a place where the company looked for vendors and designers. It was also a place where they could hear from U.S. legislators about their thoughts on the region. It was also a place for Representative 1 from Macy's to connect with U.S. companies who were attending.
5. Macy's first sponsored the conference in 2000. Over the years they have sponsored the event on an annual basis at varying levels, ranging from \$10,000 to \$35,000. As women's issues are particularly important to Macy's, given their clientele, their sponsorship focuses on the conference's "Women's Power Breakfast." The event was described as very lavish. All attendee of the breakfast also get a Macy's tote bag.
6. In 2008, Macy's contribution to the conference was \$35,000 in cash and an in-kind contribution of 400 tote bags. The total value of the in-kind contribution was \$4,620. The money was earmarked specifically for the conference.
7. As a sponsor, Macy's was given the opportunity to have a representative make opening remarks, to have representation at the Women's Power Breakfast, have input into who the speaker at the breakfast will be, and attend the closed door session with Members of Congress and officials from the Caribbean governments. Representative 1 from Macy's did in fact attend the closed door session in 2008. He recalled that other corporate sponsors also attended the meeting, but he could not recall which ones.
8. Representative 1 from Macy's recalled interacting with Representative Payne, Representative Kilpatrick, Representative Thompson, Representative Rangel, and Delegate Christensen. His interactions were all social in nature.
9. Representative 1 from Macy's was not aware of any other events sponsored by or planned by the CaribNews Foundation. With the exception of the conference, he was not aware of any other instances when Macy's supported a CaribNews Foundation event. Given Representative 1 from Macy's position within the company, it is very likely he would know if Macy's had done so.

I prepared this Memorandum of Interview on May 28, 2009 after interviewing Representative 1 from Macy's on May 27, 2009. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with Representative 1 from Macy's on May 27, 2009.

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 U.S.C. § 1001 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the text of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (popularly known as the false Statements Act) and hereby acknowledge that it applies to any testimony or documents I provide to the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

5/29/08

For Office Use:

Review(s) No. _____

Exhibit 21

Updated Schedule
for Carib News
PAGE 03

WORKING DRAFT 10/22

12th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program.
Antigua & Barbuda

Thursday, November 8, 2007

12:00noon- 6:00pm : CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -

8:00 - 6:30am - COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM
Venue - Multi-Purpose Cultural Centre - Ferry Bay, St. John's
Theme - WTO -RULES BASED TRADE & POVERTY REDUCTION
Speakers - Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress
Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
Hon. Dr. Errol Cox - Minister of Finance & The Economy
Moderator - Tony Best

6:30- 7:30pm - OPENING RECEPTION
Venue: - Sandaln Grande - Main Ballroom
Theme: - CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES
MC: - Judge Sylvia Hinds-Radix
Speakers - Faye A. Rodney - President CARIB NEWS
Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

7:30 - 9:30 pm -
Theme: - COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Moderator: - Hon. Nick Perry, New York State Assemblyman

Speakers: - Hon. 'Butch' Stewart, Chairman, Sandals
 Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress
 Hon. Harold Lovell - Minister of Tourism & Aviation

10:00pm - 1:00am: - Hospitality Area

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Reflective Pool

Friday, November 9, 2007

8:00am - 8:45am BREAKFAST - Buffet Style

9:00am - 6:00pm	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
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9:00am - 10:15am - OPENING CEREMONIES

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom

Theme: - CEMENTING DIASPORA TIES, COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES

Remarks:

- Eric Eye
 - Dr. Lowell Lewis, Chief Minister
 Montserrat
 - Karen Boychin-Towns
 - Ed Goldberg
 - Marie Long
 - Hazel Dukes - NAACP
 - William Thompson, NYC Comptroller
 - Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Govt. St. Maarten
- Greetings

Speakers: Hon. Errol Cort - Minister of Finance & The Economy
 Hon. Donna Christensen - Member of Congress
 Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress

Ambassador Andrew Young
Hon. Louise Lake Tack - Governor General of Antigua
OR
Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer

Ribbon Cutting

10:30am - 11:45am - PRESENTATION

Theme: - DEVELOPMENT BANKS, PRIVATE DEBT AND EQUITY

Venue: - Sandals Grande

Chair/Moderator - Dr. Enrique Riggs

Speaker: Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress
 Hon. Compton Bourne - President, CDB
 Mr. Milton Lawrence, Chairman Financial Services Corporation
 Mr. Rudolph Carryl
 Hon. Dr. Derril Douglas, Prime Minister/Minister of Finance, St. Kitts

10:30 - 11:45am CULTURE - PROMISE & POTENTIAL IN BUSINESS

Remarks :

Speaker: Professor Rex. Nettleford
 Hon. Howard Dotson
 Patrick Payne
 Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Culture

12:00noon - 1:15pm

Theme: - NATIONAL SECURITY: A PRE-CONDITION FOR SUCCESS

Venue: - Sandals Grande

Moderator - Leyland Hazelwood

Remarks: - Reginald Canal

Keynote Speakers: Hon. Beanie Thompson - Member of Congress
 Panelists: Hon. Dwyer Astaphan, Minister of National Security
 Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
 Hon. Colin V. A. Derrick - Minister of Justice
 Attorney Sanford Rubenstein

12:00noon -1:15pm

Theme: EDUCATION - U. S AND CARIBBEAN SYNERGIES TO
 OVERCOME CHALLENGES
 Remarks: Colin Ward
 Speakers: Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President Medgar Evers College
 Hon. Donald Payne - Member of Congress,
 Hon. Bertrand Joseph, Minister of Education

1:30pm -2:30pm

LUNCHE
 Theme: FINANCE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION'S - VALUE
 AND ROLE
 Remarks: Michael Hanigan
 Speakers: Eric Iye - Citi
 Hon. William Thompson, New York City Comptroller

3:30pm - 4:00pm

ROUND TABLES
IMMIGRATION
 Venue: Sandals Grande
 Moderator: Dr. Marco Mason

Speakers - Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress
 Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress
 Hon. Kendall Stewart - City Council member

DIVERSITY IN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

MACY'S - Outside Vendors

Ed Goldberg
 Cheryl Monroe
 State Senator Kevin Parker
 City Councilmember Inez Dickens

HAITI - IN TRANSFORMATION

Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Hon. Yvonne Graham

Ambassador Andrew Young

PORT & AIRPORT SECURITY - THE MANDATES

Moderator : Mr. Lance Ogiste

Hon. Bennie Thompson

Hon. Dwan Asaphant

Venue Sandals Grande

Participant - Preferred Health Partners

Speakers - Hon. Barbara Lee - Member of Congress

Venue -

Speaker - Hon. Gregory Meeks - Member of Congress ?
CARICOM RBE. - TBD

5:00pm - 6:30pm -

Venue: - Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Centre - Ferry Bay

Theme - HEALTH - COMMON ISSUES - PROVEN SOLUTIONS - MOVE
Healthy Eating, Healthy Living

Remarks - Ms. Karen Boykin-Townes

Moderator - Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith

Keynote Speakers: - Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis
Hon. Dr. Martin Valdez - Preferred Health Partners
Hon. Jahn Herbert Maginley - Minister of Health, Sports & Youth
Dr. John Palmer
Hon. Diane Watson, Member of Congress

6:30:00pm - 10:00 pm - HOST COUNTRY EVENING
Hosted by Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer

Venue - Multipurpose Cultural and Exhibition Centre - Ferry Bay

10:00pm - 1:00am - Hospitality Area

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Reflection Pool

Saturday, November 10, 2007

8:00am - 10:00am

Venue: - Sandals Grande - Main Ballroom
 Theme: - WOMEN AND EMPOWERMENT IN THE DIASPORA

Remarks - Brenda Scott
 MC - Marilyn Johnson
 Speakers - Hon. Diane Abbott, MP UK
 Commissioner Sarah Westcot-Williams,
 Hon. Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick, Member of Congress
 Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress
 Dr. Marcella Maxwell
 Ms. Toni Fay
 Governor General - Dame Louise Lake Tak - check
 Ms. Lucille McEwen, President/CBO HCCA
 Commissioner Westcot-Williams, Leader of Government

10:15am - 11:45pm - PRESENTATION

Theme - HEALTH - REAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN UPGRADING
 CARE AND DELIVERY

Venue - Sandals Grande
 Greeting - Karen Boykin-Townes - Pfizer
 Chair/Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham
 Keynote - Dr. Denzil Douglas - Prime Minister St. Kitts/Nevis

Panelists
 Hon. John Herbert McGinley, Minister of Health
 Dr. Marcia Bayne-Smith
 Dr. Carl Kenel Pierre, Preferred Health Partners

10:15am-11:45am
 Theme - TRAVEL & TOURISM EXPANSION -THE DIASPORA AS CATALYST
 Venue - Sandals Grande
 Chair/Moderator - Mr. Lloyd Williams, GHCC
 Speakers - Hon. Laura Richardson - Member of Congress
 Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Tourism, Antigua & Barbuda
 Hon. Howard Dotson, Director Schomburg Center

12 noon- 1:15pm - PRESENTATION
 Theme - TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION - SHARING
 Venue: - Sandals Grande
 Remarks - Ms. Marie Long
 Keynote Speakers: - Hon. Ed Towns - Member of Congress
 Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress
 Dr. Edmund Mansoor - Member of State
 Dr. Emmanuel Gonsalves

12:00noon - 1:15pm -
 Theme - INTEGRATING THE DIASPORA IN BUSINESS - INVESTORS MANAGERS, MENTORS & TRAINERS

Venue: - Sandals Grande
 Moderator - Roy Hastick
 Participant - HSBC
 Remarks - Mr. Javier Evans
 Speakers - Hon. Compton Bourne
 Hon. Adolfo Carrion, Bronx Borough President
 Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick - Member of Congress
 Hon. Professor Rex Nettleford

1:30 - 2:00 p.m. - LUNCH

Theme - CARIBBEAN TRADE COMPETITIVENESS AND POSITIONING

Venue - Sandals Grande
 Remarks - Wallace Ford - Goodworks International
 Keynote Speaker - Hon. Billie Miller - Minister of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade
 Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress

2:30pm - 6:30pm

Optional:

3:00pm - 4:00pm - ROUND TABLE

Venue : Sandals Grande

Round Table #1

Theme : CARIBBEAN - A COMPETITIVE HEALTH CARE DESTINATION

Venue

Remarks : Dr. Lesly Kerrisant

Speakers : Dr. Dexter McKenzie
Hon. Yvonne Graham

Round Table#2

Theme - HEMISPHERIC DISASTER FUND

Venue - Sandals Grande

Speakers Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Mr. Leyland Hazlewood

Mr. Emmanuel Goncalves

Participant -

Round Table#3

Theme - CLOSING THE GENERATION GAP

Speaker - Hon. Yvette Clarke - Member of Congress

Karlisa Rodney

Lita Balvan

Sabrina Hosang

Wintropo Wellington

Venue - Sandals Grande

Participant -

Round Table #4

Theme : PASSPORT & ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRAINTS ON TOURISM

Venue : Sandals Grande

Speakers : Hon. Harold Lovell - Minister of Tourism
Mr. Lloyd Williams, GHCC
Hon. Darryl Towns, State Assemblyman

5:00pm - 6:30pm - COMMUNITY OUTREACH -

EDUCATION & YOUTH DIRECTION - ACCESS AND COLLABORATION

Venue : Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Centre

Moderator : Michael Hanigan

Speakers : Dr. Edison Jackson - President Medgar Evers College
Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor New York City
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson - Member of Congress
Hon. Bertrand Joseph

6:30 - 7:30pm - GALA RECEPTION

Venue : Sandals Grande

Speaker : Hon. Stephanie Tubbs-Jones, Member of Congress
Hon. Billie Miller, Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Minister of Government ... Antigua

Themes

7:30 - 10:00 pm : GALA DINNER & AWARDS

Theme :

Venue : Sandale Grande - Main Ballroom

Speakers : Hon. Charles Rangel - Member of Congress
 Hon. Maxine Waters - Member of Congress

Keynote Speaker : Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer
 Presentation of the Marcus Garvey "Bridge Builder" Awards

Hospitality Area

10:30pm - 1:00am

Venue:

Sunday, November 11, 2007

8:30 am - 10:00am - POWER BREAKFAST

Theme - UNDERSTANDING THE SPIRITUAL ROOTS AND
 MAKING IT WORK

Celebrant - Ed Goldberg
 Lowell Hawthorne
 Caribbean person - TBD

Selection

Themes

Selection:

10/16/07

Exhibit 22

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Memorandum of Interview

In Re: Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office
Review #: 09-6333; 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-2222
Date: May 27, 2009 and May 28, 2009
Location: Washington, DC (via telephone on May 27, 2009) and at Rayburn HOB 354 (on May 28, 2009)
Time: 4:10pm to 5:30 p.m. (approximately) and 3:30pm to 4:00pm (approximately)
Participants: Leo Wise
Omar Ashmawy

Summary: Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office is currently the chief of staff of Representative Charles Rangel, a Member of the United States House of Representatives representing the Fifteenth District of New York. He was interviewed pursuant to Review 09-2567; 09-4403; 09-3698; 09-6333; and 09-2222. We requested an interview with Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and he consented to an interview. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office's counsel was present. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office signed a written acknowledgement of the warning. [attached]
2. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not attend the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference although he received an invitation. In response to a Request for Information by OCE, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office looked for Representative Rangel's invitation to the conference, but could not find it. He had thought Representative Rangel had received one, but because he could not find the invitation he now thinks that Representative Rangel did not receive one.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

3. Representative Rangel could have been invited orally as he has been attending the conference for years and was seen almost as a partner. He attends the conference because he is dedicated to strengthening the relationships between the Caribbean community, the African-American community of New York City and in general, and the United States.
4. The question of whether Representative Rangel would attend the conference in 2008 was a difficult one because of the negative press he had received throughout the preceding summer. Representative Rangel was cautious about attending because he didn't want to be a target for additional negative publicity, but Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and others on the Member's staff argued that he should go to the conference. They argued that if Representative Rangel did not attend he would be rejecting the friends with whom he helped build the conference and that the Member had to stand up and do the right thing despite the possible negative publicity.
5. Ultimately, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office and his staff persuaded the Member to attend. Representative Rangel decided to keep a low profile and, unlike in past years, staff would not attend the conference with the Member.
6. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that the CaribNews Foundation invited the Member. The CaribNews Foundation is the charitable arm of the newspaper. When the rules changed in 2007 and corporations could not be involved as before – i.e. direct contributions to the conference – there was “talk” about how to do the conference in light of the new rules.
7. According to Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office, there was “talk” that the Rodneys needed an entity to create a common fund so that the corporate money could be used to pay for the conference and that the CaribNews Foundation could be used for that purpose.
8. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office initially stated that he did not remember how he was aware of this “talk.” He stated that part of it was his reading of the rules and the supplemental material about how things get done. He then stated that “we” celebrated when Representative Susan Tubbs-Jones was made the chair of the Standards Committee in 2007 because she would try to create a way for Members of Congress to continue to attend the conference. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office then stated that he was made aware of the “talk” through the Rodneys and that the Rodneys told Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office that Representative Tubbs-Jones was going to have her counsel, Dawn Kelly-Mobley, find a way to make the conference work. The Members would have a few more hoops to go through but “we” would find a

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

way. Representative Tubbs-Jones would let Ms. Mobley know the conference was a priority and tell her to make it possible. Representative Tubbs-Jones made Ms. Mobley the point of contact on the issue of the conference.

9. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that Representative Rangel also mentioned that Representative Tubbs-Jones told him something similar. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that there was talk about "keeping the conference going." He also stated that "They gave us the framework to keep the conference going." "They" referred to Ms. Mobley and Representative Tubbs-Jones.
10. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember any specific conversations with Ms. Mobley, but he would have had them because he would have wanted to make sure he followed her advice. He stated that the 2007 conversations about Standards Committee finding a way to keep the conference going may have also been with Patricia Louis, the Rodney's office manager.
11. Regarding the structure of the CaribNews Foundation, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office said that the role of the foundation was more formalized as a way to handle the new rules and that it would have come from the Standards Committee staff. The Rodney's were the first people to describe the new structure to Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office following their conversation with Ms. Mobley. The Rodney's told Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office that they could easily comply because they had always done the conference through the foundation. The Rodney's told him that it should have always been called the CaribNews Foundation's conference.
12. Before 2007, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office knew that the corporations had a role in the conference because the format was in part to bring businesses together. Members of Congress would talk policy, but the Members' presence was the glamour part of the conference and a way to attract more people. However, policy was not the central focus of the conference. The central focus of the conference was business and increasing investment in the region. The Members of Congress drew government officials from the various Caribbean governments and these government officials drew the businesses.
13. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was aware the involvement of other corporations like AT&T, Macy's, Citi, etc because they were pretty consistent supporters of the conference. It was clear they were supporters of the conference financially.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

14. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not talk to Representative Rangel about these matters because the Member does not require that level of detail and does not typically ask for specifics.
15. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember how he became aware of the 2007 rule changes and did not remember attending any briefings or training about the new rules. He thought he was aware of the limits on the number of days a Member could attend an event paid for by an entity that employs a lobbyist, but he was not certain. Mr. Daley did not think he was aware of rules that made an entity that earmarked money for a trip a sponsor of that trip.
16. In response to the question: At the time of the 2007/2008 conferences, how sponsor was defined? Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that the New York CaribNews Foundation was the sponsor of the conference because they were putting on the conference with money from a general fund that would pay for the conference. At that time he became conscious of a need for a 501(c)(3) to be the sponsor.
17. Over the course of several phone calls— most often with Patricia Louis and Faye Rodney, Karl Rodney's wife – Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office learned that he CaribNews Foundation was going to raise money from their traditional donors and other entities.
18. The government of St. Maarten was the lynchpin of the 2008 conference. They were the conference's host and they had specific requirements, as host, that were financial in nature. For instance, when a host government owns a conference center and/or hotel then they give the rooms and conference space for free. If they do not own space, then they have to arrange with a hotel to give rooms and space to the conference at an affordable amount. Other host government support includes police escorts, airport greeting services, and security services. They also host an opening reception and key components of the conference.
19. Although it was not typical, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office became the scheduler for Representative Rangel's travel to the conference in 2008 because he played a part in convincing him to go. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office made the reservations for the Member, but did not remember how he did it or whether the Representative had an e-ticket or a ticket in some other form. He did not remember receiving any airline itinerary documents, but it would have been common practice for him to receive one.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

20. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was shown the pre-travel clearance form submitted to the Standards Committee and stated that he filled it out and the Member signed it. He was shown the post-travel disclosure forms that were submitted to the Standards Committee and stated that he filled them out and the Representative signed them.
21. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office initially said he got the information to fill out the post-travel forms from the Rodneys and stated that he remembered getting a memo from the Rodneys with the cost of the various aspects of the trip on it and that the memo was where he got the dollar amounts for the post-travel forms. He was then asked to explain why the numbers on the post-travel form matched the pre-travel form and not the memo from the Rodneys. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office then said that he could not say for sure that he got the numbers from the memo. He did not remember if the numbers were from the memo or from the pre-travel forms. He was not sure if he checked the cost of the airfare against the airline tickets or if he got it from the pre-travel documents or from the memo.
22. Generally speaking, however, Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office would not look behind the numbers given by the Rodneys. He would assume the Rodneys were accurate. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was not certain how it was done, but thought that the accounting for the conference was simple and the information for each Member would be the same. He did not ask the Rodneys for supporting documentation for the numbers on the memo.
23. After the conference, he spoke to Representative Rangel generally about the event. When the article by Susan Crabtree was published there was a lot of talk about the subject of the article with several people. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office did not remember with whom he spoke. He then said that he spoke with the Rodneys and the Member. Overall there was an opinion that there could not be anything substantive to the article because the travel was approved by the Standards Committee. It was true that the corporations were at the conference, but they did not have anything to do with their Washington, DC agenda because that's not who attended the conference. His conversations with Representative Rangel were brief and were limited to reassuring him that the office followed the rules and got approval for the travel.
24. After the OCE review was initiated Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office called other members of the Congressional Black Caucus. Representative Rangel asked him to make the calls and to tell them that he would stand by them and offered his help.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

25. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office recalled a conversation with Representative Carolyn Kilpatrick's chief of staff, Kim Rudolph. Ms. Rudolph addressed the comments that Representative Kilpatrick made in which she thanked the sponsors of the conference. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office explained Representative Kilpatrick's statements to OCE by saying that that regardless of who the real sponsor of the event was, when Members thank the corporations it helps the Rodneys put on the conference -- even if the sponsors are not sponsors under the rule. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office also remembered speaking to Shelly Thomas, Delegate Donna Christensen's scheduler, but did not recall the specifics of the conversation.
26. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was not aware of any limits on a private foundation paying for overseas travel. He did not know whether the CaribNews Foundation was a private foundation or a public charity.
27. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office was shown a copy of Congressman Rangel's itinerary and a receipt for an electronic ticket. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office stated that he did not remember seeing it before, but that the itinerary was the type of document that would typically be placed in the Congressman's briefing book so that he could provide the information at the airport in order to get his ticket. Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office also pointed out that the receipt for the electronic ticket was the sort of document that would only be provided after the Congressman checked in for his flight.

I prepared this Memorandum of Interview on May 28, 2009 after interviewing Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office on May 27, 2009. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with Staff Member 1 of Congressman Rangel's Office on May 27, 2009.

Omar Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

Exhibit 23



THE NEW YORK CARIBNEWS
 THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
 7 WEST 36TH STREET, 8th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

TEL: (212) 944-1991; FAX: (212) 944-2089
 E-MAIL ADDRESS: NYCARIB@AOL.COM;
CARIBNEWS@ATT.NET

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Kelly Mobley FROM: Patricia Louis
 COMPANY: Committee on Standards of official conduct DATE: 8/20/08
 FAX NUMBER: 202-225-7392 TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
 RE: 2008 MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY YOUR INFORMATION

Following is the completed form and attachments re travel for Members of Congress to attend the 2008 Multinational Business Conference scheduled for November 6-9, 2008 in St. Maarten.

Regards

09-2222 0264

CN-000112



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): OARIB NEWS FOUNDATION
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box):
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): BASED ON COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE WHICH IMPACTS US/CARIBBEAN RELATIONS ON WHICH THE MEMBER SERVES,
6. Dates of travel: NOVEMBER 6-8, 2008
7. Cities of departure - destination - return: VARIES - DEPENDING ON MEMBER
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box):
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
- a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
- a. One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: or
 - b. Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered:
- If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

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11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):
12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: _____
 CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION (* SEE ATTACHED)
13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: _____
 THE INTEREST OF CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION IS TO PROMOTE, INFORM, TRADE AND
 ESTABLISHMENT OF MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE U.S AND THE CARIBBEAN
14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted: _____
 REGULAR SCHEDULED AIR SERVICE, ECONOMY CLASS
15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box):
16. I represent that either (check one of the following):
 a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: *or*
 b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:
 If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____
17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: SEE ATTACHED
18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: SONESTA MAHO BEACH RESORT
19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): \$110.00
20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: HAS APPROPRIATE MEETING ROOMS

21. **TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:**

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	410	260	145
For each accompanying family member	410	0	145

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$150 \$ 25	Conference Registration Local transportation
For each accompanying family member		

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box):

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Name and title: KARL B. RODNEY, CEO

Organization: CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION

Address: 7 WEST 36th STREET, 8th FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018

Telephone number: (212) 944-1891

Fax number: (212) 944-2089

Email Address: CARIB-DESK@ATT.NET

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
U.S. House of Representatives
HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-7103 (phone)
(202) 225-7392 (general fax)
(202) 226-7172 (fax for travel approvals)

Version date 4/2007 by Committee on Standards of Official Conduct

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INVITED TO THE
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS
CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 6-9, 2008, ST. MAARTEN, N.A.

Congresswoman Diane E. Watson
Congressman David Scott
Congressman James Clyburn
Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez
Congressman Charles Rangel
Congressman Donald Payne
Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
Congressman Edolphus Towns
Congressman G. K. Butterfield
Congressman Gregory Meeks
Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.
Congressman Keith Ellison
Congressman Kendrick Meek
Congresswoman Maxine Waters
Congressman Melvin Watt
Congressman Robert Scott
Congressman William Lacy Clay
Congresswoman Barbara Lee
Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
Congresswoman Corrine Brown
Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
Congressman Danny Davis
Congressman Bennie Thompson
Congresswoman Laura Richardson

July 2008

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CN-000117



Carib News Foundation
7 West 36th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 944-1991; Fax: (212) 944-2089
E-mail: info@caribnewsconference.com

Item #12

CARIB NEWS FOUNDATION is organized to provide education and information about the Caribbean in the area of Business, Education, Health and Culture, Promote Good neighborly within the United States and the hemisphere.

The participants are selected to participate in the various workshops during the Conference based on their demonstrated interest, expertise and assignment in the United States Congress.

Item#17

A Caribbean country whose proximity to other Caribbean Countries makes it conveniently located for delegates from the other Caribbean countries to attend.

Organized by Carib News Foundation. A non-profit project 501-C3 corporation

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**MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INVITED TO THE
13th Annual Multinational Business Conference
St. Maarten, November 6-9, 2008**

**Congressman William Lacy Clay
U.S House of Representatives
131 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2406
Fax: 202-226-3717**

**Congresswoman Diane E. Watson
US House of Representatives
125 Cannon HOB
Washington , DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7084
Fax: 202-225-2422**

**Congressman Kendrick Meek
U.S House of Representatives
1039 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-4506
Fax: 202-226-0777**

**Congressman David Scott
U.S House of Representatives
417 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2929
Fax: 202-225-4268**

**Congressman James Clyburn
US House of Representatives
2135 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3315
Fax: 202-225-9253**

**Congressman Robert Scott
U.S House of Representatives
1201 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-8351
Fax: 202-225-8354**

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Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez
U.S House of Representatives
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Phone: 202-225-2361
Fax: 202-226-0327

Congressman Charles Rangel
U.S House of Representatives
2354 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515-3215
Phone: 202-225-4365
Fax: 202-225-0186

Congressman Donald Payne
U.S House of Representatives
2209 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3436
Fax: 202-225-4160

Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen
U.S House of Representatives
1610 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-1790
Fax: 202-225-5517

Congressman Edolphus Towns
U.S House of Representatives
2232 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-5936
Fax: 202-225-6018

Congressman G. K. Butterfield
U.S House of Representatives
413 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3101
Fax: 202-225-2256

Congressman Gregory Meeks
U.S House of Representatives
1710 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3461
Fax: 202-225-4169

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Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.
U.S House of Representatives
2419 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-0773
Fax: 202-225-0899

Congressman Keith Ellison
U.S House of Representatives
1130 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-4755
Fax: 202-225-4886

Congressman Kendrick Meek
U.S House of Representatives
1039 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-4506
Fax: 202-225-0777

Congresswoman Maxine Waters
U.S House of Representatives
2324 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2201
Fax: 202-225-7854

Congressman Melvin Watt
U.S House of Representatives
2236 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-1510
Fax: 202-225-1512

Congresswoman Barbara Lee
U.S House of Representatives
2444 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2661
Fax: 202-225-9817

Congresswoman Caroline Cheeks Kilpatrick
U.S House of Representatives
1610 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2261
Fax: 202-225-5730

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Congresswoman Corrine Brown
U.S House of Representatives
2444 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-0123
Fax: 202-225-2256

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
U.S House of Representatives
1511 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-8886
Fax: 202-2256-1477

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
U.S House of Representatives
410 Canon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3816
Fax: 202-225-3317

Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
U.S House of Representatives
1029 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-6231
Fax: 202-2256-0112

Congressman Danny Davis
U.S House of Representatives
1222 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-5006
Fax: 202-225-5641

Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs-Jones
U.S House of Representatives
1516 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7032
Fax: 202-2256-1539/2367

Congressman Bennie Thompson
US House of Representatives
2432 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-5876
Fax: 202-225-5898

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Working Copy

19th Annual Caribbean Multi-National
Business Conference Program
St. Maarten, N.A.

THEME: *A REGION IN TRANSITION – STRATEGY FOR
CHANGE – BUILDING ALLIANCES*

Thursday, November 6, 2008

12:00 noon – 6:00pm : **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION -**

5:00 – 6:30 - **TOWN HALL FORUM - HEALTH**

Healthy Eating and Living

Innovative Solutions for Life styles

Diseases- a Collaborative Approach – Diabetes,

Hypertension, Obesity, Oral Health

Venue - **ROYAL ISLANDER**

Moderator - **Dr. Marcia Bayne Smith**

Speakers - **Mrs. Karen Boykin-Towns**

Congressmember Dr. Donna Christian Christensen

Commissioner Maria Buncamper Molanus, Health

Commissioner, St. Maarten

Dr. Leon Merrick

Dr. Jay Cohan

Dr. John Palmer

6:30- 7:30pm - **OPENING RECEPTION**

Venue: - **UPPER POOL**

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Theme: - *A REGION IN TRANSITION* -
Speakers: - **Daye A. Rodney**
Hon. Roy Marlin - Commissioner for Tourism & Finance - St
Maarten.

MC: - **Sabrina Hosang - Royal Caribbean Bakery**
7:30 - 9:30 pm - **OPENING DINNER**

Venue: - **MAHO ROOM**

Theme: - *STRATEGY FOR CHANGE*

MC - **Judge Sylvia Hinds-Radix**

Speakers: - **Susan Taylor**

Hon. Donald Payne, Member US Congress

10:00pm - 1:00am: - **HOSPITALITY AREA**

Friday, November 7, 2008

8:00am - 8:45am - **(BREAKFAST) - OCEAN TERRACE**

9:00am - 6:00pm

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
OCEAN TERRACE LOBBY

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT
SABA ROOM

9:00am - 10:15am

- **OPENING CEREMONIES**

Venue:

- **MAHO ROOM**

Theme:

- **BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR PROGRESS**

Invocation:

- **Rev. Susan Johnson=Cook**

Anthems:

- **St. Maarten**

Lift Every Voice

Remarks:

- **Eric Eve**

Karen Boykin-Towns

Marie Long

Ed Goldberg

Patrick Gaston

Hazel Dukes

Speakers:

- **Hon. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick -- Member**
US Congress

Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader
of Government, St. Maarten

Harry Belafonte

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONIES

10:15am - 10:30am - COFFEE BREAK -

10:30am - 11:45am - PRESENTATION

EDUCATION -- TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES - COLLABORATION

Moderator - Dr. Emmanuel Gonsalves
Greetings - Marie Long
Speakers - Dr. Edison Jackson
Patrick Gaston
Dr. Marcia Keizs
Congressmember Eddie Bernice Johnson
Professor Rex Nettleford

12:00 noon - 1:15p.m.

PRESENTATION

TRAVEL AND TOURISM -

A Transformative Approach

Moderator - Lloyd Williams
Greetings - Wallace Ford
Speakers - Commissioner Roy Marlin
Howard Dodson
Congressman Gregory Meeks
Professor Rex Nettleford
Dr. Martin Valdes

12:00 noon - 1:15p.m - PRESENTATION
HEALTH - AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE REGION

Greetings - Karen Boykin-Towns

Moderator - Yvonne Graham

Speakers - Dr. Denzil Douglas
 Dr. Carl Kenel Pierre
 Commissioner Maria Buncamper Molanus, Health
 Commissioner, St. Maarten
 Dr. Dexter McKenzie

1:30pm - 2:30pm - LUNCHEON

Venue: - Main Ballroom

Theme: - **BUILDING A WINNING STRATEGY - PARTNERSHIPS THAT WORK**

Moderator: - Hon. Nick Perry, NYS Assembly

Speakers - Eric Eve

Keynote Speaker - Hon. David Paterson, Governor New York State

3:00pm - 4:00pm

Round Table # 1 -

Theme - **EDUCATION - THINKFINITY PRESENTATION & DEMONSTRATION**

Venue - Royal Islander A
MC - Dr. Patricia Hazlewood
Speakers - Patrick Gaston
Albert Browne

Round Table #2 -

Theme - LOCAL BUSINESS INITIATIVES
Opportunities with US Companies

Venue - Royal Islander B
Speakers: - Ed Goldberg
Eric Eve
Albert Browne

4:30pm - 6:00pm - TOWN HALL FORUM - EDUCATION
Venue - Royal Islander A
Theme : EDUCATION - SHARING WORKING SOLUTIONS
Greetings : Michael Flanigan
Moderator : Dr. Marcella Maxwell

Speakers: - Hon. David M. Dinkins - Former Mayor, NYC
Dr. Edison O. Jackson
Dr. Marcia Keizs
Professor Rex Nettleford, UWI
William Payne, Assemblyman New Jersey

Venue:

6.30:00pm - 7:30pm - *HOST COUNTRY EVENING*

Venue:

Theme

MC:

Speakers:

7:30 - 8:00 pm:

8:00pm - 10:30 pm.

CULTURAL PRESENTATION

Venue :

Theme

10:00pm - 1:00am

HOSPITALITY AREA

Venue:

Saturday, November 8, 2008

7:45 am - 8:15 am

=

BREAKFAST

Venue

-

OCEAN TERRACE

8:30am - 10:00am

-

PRESENTATION

Theme

WOMEN OF INFLUENCE AND POWER

Venue:

-

MAHO BEACH

Greetings & Opening Remarks - - Brenda Scott

Moderator - Marilyn Johnson

Speakers: - Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Government Business

- Dame Billie Miller, former Deputy Prime Minister, of Barbados

- Dr. Marcia Keizs, President York College

- Michelle Paterson, First Lady New York State

- Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson

- Rev. Dr. Susan Johnson-Cook

10.15am - 11:45am - **PRESENTATION**

Theme - **THE CARIBBEAN, IT'S VALUE & POTENTIAL**

Venue - Royal Islander A

Greetings - Wallace Ford

Moderator - Dame Billie Miller

Speakers - Hon. P. J. Patterson, former Prime Minister, Jamaica

- Hon. Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister St. Vincent and the Grenadines

- Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister, St. Kitts-Nevis

- Congressman Charles Rangel

12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m. - **PRIVATE MEETING -- CLOSED DOOR SESSION**

- with Members of Congress and Ministers of Government

12:00 noon – 1:15p.m. **PRESENTATION**

Theme - **TRADE & INVESTMENT – CREATIVE SOLUTIONS**
RETOOLING FOR GROWTH – PARTNERSHIP AT WORK

Venue - **Royal Islander A**

Greetings - **Michael Flanigan**

Moderator - **Ivanhoe Ffriend**

Speakers - **Adolfo Carrion, Borough President, Bronx, New York**
Compton Bourne, President Caribbean Development Bank
- **Congressman Edolphus Towns**
- **Eric Eve**

12:00 noon – 1:15pm - **PRESENTATION**

Theme **Hemispheric Security – Ports/Airports –**
Crime – Drugs – Disaster

Venue - **Royal Islander B**

Greetings - **Earl Brown, Deputy Borough President, Bronx**
- **Judge Sylvia Ash**

Moderator - **Tony Best**

Speakers - **Congressman Beanie Thompson**
- **Commissioner Theo Heyliger , St. Maarten**
- **Professor Ivelaw Griffith**
- **Hon. Lance Ogiste, Brooklyn District Attorney**

1:30pm – 2:30 pm **LUNCHEON**

Venue - **MAHO ROOM**

Theme: *CARIBBEAN - A SOLID INVESTMENT*

Greetings - Hon. Darryl Towns

Speakers - Hon. William Thompson, NYC Comptroller
Dr. Compton Bourne, President CDB

Round Table #1 - *IMMIGRATION/DEPORTEES*

Venue - Royal Islander A

Moderator - Dr. Marco Mason

Speakers Congressman Bennie Thompson
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson, Member US Congress
Attorney Stanford Rubenstein
NYC Councilmember Dr. Kendall Stewart

Round Table#2: - *HAITI - BOLD INITIATIVES - THE DIASPORA-
CBC AND CARICOM*

Venue - Royal Islander B

Moderator - Hon. Yvonne Graham

Speakers - Hon. Charles Rangel
Hon. Gregory Meeks
Hon. Ralph Gonsalves
Dr. Lesly Kernisant

4:30 pm - 6:00pm - *TOWN HALL FORUM - TECHNOLOGY*

Venue: Royal Islander A

Greetings & Opening - Marie Long

Moderator - Colin Ward

**Speakers - Congressman Edolphus Towns
Albert Brown
Commissioner of Technology**

6:30 - 7:30pm - GALA RECEPTION

Speakers - Susan Taylor

7:30pm - 10:00pm - GALA DINNER & AWARDS PRESENTATION

Speaker - Dr. Harry Belafonte

**Hon. Sarah Wescot-Williams, Leader of Government
Business**

AWARDS PRESENTATION

ENTERTAINMENT

10:30pm - 1:00am - HOSPITALITY AREA

Venue: HOTEL CONFERENCE ROOM

Sunday, November 9, 2008

8:30 am - 10:00am - POWER BREAKFAST

Theme: - *SPIRITUALITY - THE BASICS IN BUSINESS*
Greetings - *Lowell Hawthorne*
Speakers - *Ed Goldberg*
Selection: - *Local Choir*

October 13, 2008

Exhibit 24

Jimerson, Jennifer

From: carib-desk@att.net
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2008 11:05 AM
To: Jimerson, Jennifer
Subject: RE: FW: Flight Arrangements
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red
Attachments: Congressman Bennie Thompson.doc

The confirmation is the same as you gave to me - B3TI5Y. I asked them to send me the email confirmation to me but have not got it yet. Could you call them and ask for it and also ask them to send it to me. Letter re speaking assignment attached.

Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
NY Carib News
Ph: (212) 944-1991
Fax: (212) 944-2089

----- Original message from "Jimerson, Jennifer"
<jjimerson@mail.house.gov>: -----

What's the confirmation #? What letter are you referring to? Is it included in the Ethics package?

From: carib-desk@att.net [mailto:carib-desk@att.net]
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2008 12:19 AM
To: Jimerson, Jennifer
Subject: RE: FW: Flight Arrangements

The reservation has been paid for. Did you get the letter about his participation in sessions at the conference.

--
Patricia Louis
Executive Assistant
NY Carib News
Ph: (212) 944-1991
Fax: (212) 944-2089

| ----- Original message from "Jimerson, Jennifer"

<jjimerson@mail.house.gov>: -----

It can only be on hold for 24 hours. The Reservation # is B3T1SY.

From: carib-desk@att.net [mailto:carib-desk@att.net]

Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 8:25 PM

To: Jimerson, Jennifer

Subject: Re: FW: Flight Arrangements

Jennier,

Could you go ahead and make the reservation for them, and give me the locator number and I will pay for it.

Thanks

--

Patricia Louis

Executive Assistant

NY Carib News

Ph: (212) 944-1991

Fax: (212) 944-2089

----- Original message from "Jimerson, Jennifer"
<jjimerson@mail.house.gov>: -----

Patricia,

Considering that the other options have several layovers the Congressman's preference would be the first itinerary with US Airways for \$750.15. Congressman Thompson seating preferences is exit row aisle only and please seat him and Dr. Thompson together. Contact me if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Jennifer

Lowest Fare Found - Personal Rate

1. #US 2422 L 06NOV TH JAN CLT 600A 839A CRJ 0 @
2. #US 877 L 06NOV TH CLT SXM 1130A 409P 757 F 0 @
3. #US 1556 L 09NOV SU SXM CLT 305P 611P 757 F 0 @
4. #US 2595 L 09NOV SU CLT JAN 825P 924P CRJ 0 @

BASE FARE- 645.00 TAX- 105.15 TOTAL- 750.15 USD

1. #AA 3750 S 06NOV TH JAN DFW 600A 735A ER4 F 0E@
2. #AA 1646 S 06NOV TH DFW MIA 1125A 305P 738 F 0E@
3. #AA 729 O 06NOV TH MIA SXM 520P 915P 738 D 0E@
4. #AA 748 O 09NOV SU SXM MIA 915A 1135A 738 B 0E@
5. #AA 1973 S 09NOV SU MIA DFW 645P 905P 757 F 0E@
6. #AA 3877 S 10NOV MO DFW JAN 745A 905A ER4 F 0E@

BASE FARE- 633.00 TAX- 115.15 TOTAL- 748.15 USD

1. #AA 3750 N 06NOV TH JAN DFW 600A 735A ER4 F 0E@
2. #AA 1646 N 06NOV TH DFW MIA 1125A 305P 738 F 0E@
3. #AA 729 N 06NOV TH MIA SXM 520P 915P 738 D 0E@

4. #AA 2160 N 09NOV SU SXM MIA 415P 635P 738 D 0E@
5. #AA 1724 N 09NOV SU MIA DFW 920P 1130P 738 F 0E@
6. #AA 3877 N 10NOV MO DFW JAN 745A 905A ER4 F 0E@

BASE FARE- 645.00 TAX- 115.15 TOTAL- 760.15 USD

1. #AA 3750 N 06NOV TH JAN DFW 600A 735A ER4 F 0E@
2. #AA 1646 N 06NOV TH DFW MIA 1125A 305P 738 F 0E@
3. #AA 729 N 06NOV TH MIA SXM 520P 915P 738 D 0E@
4. #AA 2160 N 09NOV SU SXM MIA 415P 635P 738 D 0E@
5. #AA 1724 N 09NOV SU MIA DFW 920P 1130P 738 F 0E@
6. #AA 3713 N 10NOV MO DFW JAN 1110A 1230P ER4 F 0E@

BASE FARE- 645.00 TAX- 115.15 TOTAL- 760.15 USD

1. #US 2422 L 06NOV TH JAN CLT 600A 839A CRJ 0 @
2. #US 877 L 06NOV TH CLT SXM 1130A 409P 757 F 0E@
3. #US 1556 L 09NOV SU SXM CLT 305P 611P 757 F 0E@
4. #US 2375 L 10NOV MO CLT JAN 1114A 1203P CRJ 0E@

BASE FARE- 645.00 TAX- 115.15 TOTAL- 760.15 USD

Lowest Fare Found - Government

1. #US 2422 Y 06NOV TH JAN CLT 600A 839A CRJ 0 @
2. #US 877 Y 06NOV TH CLT SXM 1130A 409P 757 F 0 @
3. #US 1556 Y 09NOV SU SXM CLT 305P 611P 757 F 0 @
4. #US 2595 Y 09NOV SU CLT JAN 825P 924P CRJ 0 @

BASE FARE- 2228.00 TAX- 105.15 TOTAL- 2333.15 USD

1. #AA 3750 G 06NOV TH JAN DFW 600A 735A ER4 F 0E@
2. #AA 1646 G 06NOV TH DFW MIA 1125A 305P 738 F 0E@
3. #AA 729 G 06NOV TH MIA SXM 520P 915P 738 D 0E@
4. #AA 2160 G 09NOV SU SXM MIA 415P 635P 738 D 0E@
5. #AA 1724 G 09NOV SU MIA DFW 920P 1130P 738 F 0E@
6. #AA 3877 G 10NOV MO DFW JAN 745A 905A ER4 F 0E@

BASE FARE- 1320.00 TAX- 115.15 TOTAL- 1435.15 USD

1. #AA 3750 G 06NOV TH JAN DFW 600A 735A ER4 F 0E@
2. #AA 1646 G 06NOV TH DFW MIA 1125A 305P 738 F 0E@
3. #AA 729 G 06NOV TH MIA SXM 520P 915P 738 D 0E@
4. #AA 2160 G 09NOV SU SXM MIA 415P 635P 738 D 0E@
5. #AA 1724 G 09NOV SU MIA DFW 920P 1130P 738 F 0E@
6. #AA 3713 G 10NOV MO DFW JAN 1110A 1230P ER4 F 0E@

BASE FARE- 1320.00 TAX- 115.15 TOTAL- 1435.15 USD

1. #AA 3750 G 06NOV TH JAN DFW 600A 735A ER4 F 0E@
2. #AA 1646 G 06NOV TH DFW MIA 1125A 305P 738 F 0E@
3. #AA 729 G 06NOV TH MIA SXM 520P 915P 738 D 0E@
4. #AA 2160 G 09NOV SU SXM MIA 415P 635P 738 D 0E@
5. #AA 1724 G 09NOV SU MIA DFW 920P 1130P 738 F 0E@
6. #AA 3857 G 10NOV MO DFW JAN 210P 330P ER4 F 0E@

BASE FARE- 1320.00 TAX- 130.65 TOTAL- 1450.65 USD

1. #AA 3876 L 06NOV TH JAN DFW 930A 1105A ER4 F 0E@
2. #AA 1819 G 06NOV TH DFW MIA 1250P 430P 757 L 0E@
3. #AA 729 G 06NOV TH MIA SXM 520P 915P 738 D 0E@
4. #AA 748 G 09NOV SU SXM MIA 915A 1135A 738 B 0E@
5. #AA 1973 G 09NOV SU MIA DFW 645P 905P 757 F 0E@
6. #AA 3877 G 10NOV MO DFW JAN 745A 905A ER4 F 0E@

BASE FARE- 1337.00 TAX- 115.15 TOTAL- 1452.15 USD

Exhibit 25



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the
General Counsel

Office of the
Secretary
Washington, D.C.
20201

June 2, 2000

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Ethics Counselors
National Institutes of Health

FROM: Karen Santoro
Ethics Counsel

SUBJECT: Outside Activities of NIH Employees with Foundations

Recently, a provision of the Internal Revenue Code has been brought to my attention that has serious ramifications for NIH employees who have previously received approval to engage in outside employment activities with private foundations. The statute imposes a tax on "each act of self-dealing between a disqualified person and a private foundation," 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(1). This statute, which was enacted in 1969, was intended to curb private foundations' attempts to influence Government officials. The Internal Revenue Service has issued a number of revenue rulings with respect to Government employees and prospective activities with private foundations.

Issue: The Internal Revenue Service imposes an individual penalty tax of up to 200% of the amount of compensation from a private foundation to certain Government officials conducting outside activities with these foundations.

Conclusion: Certain Government officials should refrain from accepting compensation (other than travel expenses within the United States) for outside activities with private foundations.

Discussion: Specifically, the statute imposes a tax on each act of self-dealing by a disqualified individual equal to five percent of the amount involved for each year in the taxable period. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(1)[1]. In any case in which an initial tax is imposed on an act of self-dealing which is not corrected within the taxable period, a tax equal to 200 percent of the amount involved will be imposed on the disqualified person. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(b)(1)[2].

The Code defines "self-dealing" as any direct or indirect agreement by a private foundation to make any payment to certain enumerated government officials. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(1)(F)[3]. Government officials who are "disqualified persons" within the scope of this restriction are elective officials, Presidential appointees, Schedule C employees, and individuals compensated at or above GS-15-7 levels, irrespective of their appointment mechanism (Title 42, SBRS, Commissioned Corps), and personal or executive assistants or secretaries to any of the foregoing. 26 U.S.C. § 4946(c). Excluded from the definition of government employees is a "special governmental employee" as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 202(a)[4]; Treas. Reg. 53.4946-1(g)(1).

Also excluded from the definition of self-dealing are agreements to employ an individual for any period after the termination of his government service if that individual is terminating his government service within a 90 day period. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(d)(1)(F). For purposes of the statute, a "private foundation" has the same meaning as in 26 U.S.C. § 509. A website for obtaining the status of a foundation can be found at http://www.irs.us/treas.gov/bus_info/eo/eosearch.html.

09-2222 0293

Government officials who are within the scope of this statute will be required to pay the tax only if the individual participates in the act of self-dealing knowing that it is an act of self-dealing. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (a)(1). The regulations define "knowing" to include those situations when: the individual has actual knowledge of the facts that such a transaction would be self-dealing; he is aware that the act violates Federal tax law governing self-dealing; and he negligently fails to make reasonable attempts to ascertain whether the act is an act of self-dealing or he is in fact aware that it is in an act of self-dealing. Treas. Reg. § 53.4941 (a)(1)-(b)(3). The burden is thus on the individual to determine whether he or she is liable under the statute.

An individual's participation in an act of self-dealing will not be considered "knowing" if the individual, after full disclosure of the factual situation to legal counsel, relies on the advice of counsel expressed in a "reasoned written legal opinion" that an act is not an act of self-dealing within the meaning of the statute, even if the act is subsequently determined to be self-dealing. Treas. Reg. § 53.4941(a)(1)-(b)(6).

Finally, a tax for self-dealing will not be imposed under the following circumstances: certain nontaxable prizes and awards if the recipients are selected from the general public; nontaxable scholarships and fellowship grants; qualifying annuity plans; contributions or gifts not exceeding an aggregate of \$25; payments made under the government employee training program in 5 U.S.C. Ch. 41; and payment of travel expenses within the United States. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (d)(2)(B); Rev. Rul. 131, 1974-2 C.B. 385.

As a result of this statute, NIH employees paid at or above the GS 15-7 level are effectively prohibited from receiving compensation from a private foundation for activities such as teaching, writing, advising, or consulting. The Internal Revenue Service may serve a deficiency notice upon an employee, who would then be forced to pay the tax or contest the assessment.

Effective immediately, all requests for approval of outside activities must be reviewed in accordance with the statutory provision at 26 U.S.C. § 4941. The compensation level of the individual requesting approval must be considered in conjunction with an analysis of the nature of the private entity offering the opportunity for compensation. Previously approved outside activities with foundations for NIH employees who are paid at or above the GS 15-7 level should be reviewed to determine the status of the foundation. Should the status of the foundation be private, any affected employee must be advised to either accept only travel expenses within the United States for his/her service or resign from such service. Employees who have questions whether payment to them by a private foundation constitutes acts of self-dealing should consult private counsel.

For your information, the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) and the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) are For your information, the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) and the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) are not considered private foundations for purposes of this prohibition.

The NIH Office of the Legal Advisor has reviewed and concurs in this opinion.

cc: Robert Lanman, Stephen Benowitz

[1] When a tax is imposed on a self-dealer, a corresponding tax of 2.5 percent is imposed on any foundation manager unless the participation by the foundation manager is not willful and is due to reasonable care. 26 U.S.C. § 4941(a)(2). A maximum tax of \$10,000 may be imposed. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (c) (2).

[2] The "taxable period" is defined as the period beginning with the date on which the act of self-dealing occurs, and ending on the earliest of: the date that a deficiency notice is mailed by the I.R.S.; the date on which the tax is assessed; or the date on which the correction of the act of self-dealing is completed. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (e), Treas. Reg. § 53.4941 (e) -1 (a) (1). As with the initial tax, a corresponding additional tax of 50 percent will be imposed on any foundation manager who refuses to agree to the correction. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (b) (2). As with the initial tax, the penalty on a foundation manager is limited to \$10,000. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (c) (2)

[3] The statute also defines "self-dealing" to include: the sale or exchange, or leasing, of property; the lending of money or other extension of credit; the furnishing of goods, services, or facilities; payments to a disqualified person as defined in 26 U.S.C. § 4946 (a) (such as substantial contributors, foundation managers, holders of 20 percent of the voting power or beneficial interests; family members of disqualified individuals, or a corporation, partnership, or trust holding a 35 percent interest); and transfer to or use by a disqualified person of the foundation's income or assets. 26 U.S.C. § 4941 (d).

[4] 18 U.S.C. § 202 (a) defines "special Government employee" as temporary employee appointed for a term not to exceed 130 days, a part-time U.S. commissioner or magistrate, a part-time member of Congress, or a Reserve or National Guard officer.

09-2222 0294

[Back to Top](#) | [Home Page](#) | [Contacts](#)

BENNIE G. THOMPSON
SECOND DISTRICT, MISSISSIPPI

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY
CHAIRMAN

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2432 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2402
(202) 225-5876
(202) 225-5898: FAX

E-Mail: benniethompson@mail.house.gov
Home Page: <http://www.house.gov/thompson>

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2402

RECEIVED
2009 OCT 20 PM 5:09
COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

October 20, 2009

CONFIDENTIAL/BY HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable G. K. Butterfield
Chair, Investigative Subcommittee
U.S. House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Investigation of Certain Allegations Related to the Carib News Foundation Conferences in 2007 and 2008

Dear Chairman Butterfield:

Subsequent to my appearance at the hearing held before the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct on October, 7, 2009, I have further reviewed the allegations, the history, and the process of said hearing. Based on my review and research, I have determined that the allegations, findings, and conclusions were improper and not conducted in accordance with appropriate procedures and rules. Therefore, the actions undertaken by the Office of Congressional Ethics (OCE) are improper and egregious.

Below, I have set forth my findings and conclusions and request that based on this information, that the Investigative Subcommittee cease and desist from any further pursuit of these allegations.

The following constitute my reasons for requesting the Subcommittee's terminating this action and expunging any record thereof.

1. According to the Resolution establishing the Office of Congressional Ethics (OCE), (H.Res.895) on March 11, 2008, I question the authority of the OCE to investigate any matter that occurred in November 2007. Additionally any evidence gathered after March 11, 2008 on the November 2007 investigation should not be considered.
2. According to the Resolution establishing the OCE (H.Res.895) the investigation did not meet the required timelines set out in the "Powers" Section of said Resolution. Specifically the OCE's establishing authority, H.Res 895 of the 110th Congress, 2nd session, clearly states that OCE's review is limited. More precisely, the resolution states that:

“No review shall be undertaken by the Board [i.e., OCE]... of any alleged violation that occurred before the date of adoption of this resolution [i.e., H. Res 895].”¹ *

The OCE failed to comply with this provision in several ways. First, the language of H.Res 895 specifically states that “no review shall be undertaken for any alleged violation that occurred before the date of adoption of this resolution.” Because the resolution creating and authorizing the OCE was adopted on March 11, 2008, and the trip which is the subject of this inquiry occurred in November 2007, the OCE has undertaken a review of a matter which occurred prior to its formation.

3. The OCE was two days late in meeting the 30 day requirement to complete its preliminary review. By missing the deadline, according to the Powers Section of H.Res.895, the matter should be terminated. Additionally, information gathered during the second phase review should not be considered because the timeline requirements were violated. By ignoring the timelines set by Congress, any and all evidence gathered by the OCE should not be considered by the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct (The Committee).

4. The report by the OCE improperly examined a matter which occurred in 2007 and improperly reached and issued a conclusion beyond the scope of its jurisdiction. Specifically, section (1)(c)(2)(C)(i)(I)(dd) of H.Res. 895 provides that the OCE’s role is limited in what it may do and set forth in these proceedings. The establishing authority states that the OCE may set forth certain information provided to the Committee, including:

“a citation of any relevant law, rule, regulations, or standard of conduct; but not [emphasis added] the names of any cooperative witnesses or any conclusions regarding the validity of the allegations upon which it is based or the guilt or innocence of the individual who is the subject of the review.”²

Further, OCE exceeded its authority by reaching a conclusion and which it transmitted to the Committee (see Attachment I) that improperly contained OCE’s prohibited conclusion, that I should not have traveled. OCE’s improper conclusion is prohibited by H.Res. 895, which provides that after a second phase review OCE can make recommendations and transmit findings, but is expressly forbidden from reaching conclusions.³ Therefore, OCE violated its establishing authority.

5. The OCE’s inquiry creates organizational uncertainty that renders the House Rules meaningless, at worse, or vague, at best, if the OCE is permitted to move forward on this matter. Because the trip in question was approved by the Committee, the OCE’s review undermines the confidence Members should have had prior to the 110th Congress, should currently have, and should continue to have in the opinions issued by the Committee. Without clear guidance, Members will be unable to determine appropriate conduct under the House Rules, and instead would be required to individually interpret the rules. This would lead to chaos. Therefore, to create organizational certainty and provide Members with the ability to rely on the determinations of the Committee, the Committee should require the OCE to cease and desist and be estopped from any investigation involving a matter expressly approved by the Committee. Failure to let

¹ See Section 1(e) of H.Res 895 (110th Cong. 2d Session).

² See Section 1(c)(2)(C)(i)(I)(dd) of House Resolution 895 (110th Cong. 2d Session).

³ See Section 1(c)(2)(C)(i)(I)(dd) of House Resolution 895 (110th Cong. 2d Session).

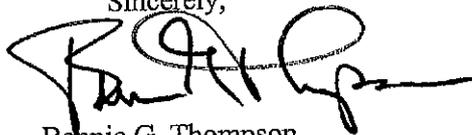
Chairman Butterfield
October 20, 2009
Page 3

Members rely on the advice of Counsel of the Committee, undermines the Committee's purpose and will lead to organizational uncertainty and chaos.

As a matter of summation, I further state that I relied solely on the Committee to determine the legality of the trip in question. Upon Committee approval of said trip (see Attachment-II), I proceeded to travel and submit the requisite forms to the Committee. Therefore, any examination of a trip or other activity receiving prior approval by the Committee should not become the subject of an OCE inquiry. Members should be allowed to rely, in good faith, on the opinions and actions of the Committee.

Therefore, I request the Investigative Subcommittee cease and desist any further pursuit of these allegations.

Sincerely,



Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress

Attachment I – Report from Office of Congressional Ethics to Chairman Bennie G. Thompson, Review No. 09-2222 (Cover Page Included-remaining report excluded due to size)

Attachment II – Travel Authorization Letter to Chairman Bennie G. Thompson from the Committee, dated October 20, 2008

* Section 1 (e) of H. Res 895 (110 Cong. 2.d)

**Section 1(c)(2)(C)(i)(I)(dd) of House Resolution 895 (110th Cong. 2d Session).
“ a citation of any relevant law, rule, regulations, or standard of conduct; but not the names of any cooperative witnesses or any conclusions regarding the validity of the allegations upon which it is based or the guilt or innocence of the individual who is the subject of the review.”

District of Columbia
On this 20th day of October, 2009
Bennie G. Thompson
personally appeared before me and acknowledged
that he/she executed the foregoing instrument.
Michael J. Orrick Notary Public
Michael J. Orrick
My commission expires March 14, 2013

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT

Review No. 09-2222

The Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics, by a vote of no less than four members, on May 29, 2009 adopted the following report and ordered it to be transmitted to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct of the U.S. House of Representatives.

SUBJECT: Representative Bennie Thompson

* NATURE OF THE ALLEGED VIOLATION: There is substantial reason to believe that Congressman Bennie Thompson's participation in the 13th Annual Caribbean Multi-National Business Conference in St. Maarten, N.A. from November 6-9, 2008, his acceptance of reimbursement of expenses to attend that conference and the Member Post Travel Disclosure Form he filed violated various provisions of House Rule XXV Section 5(b).

RECOMMENDATION: The Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics recommends that the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct further review the above described allegations concerning Congressman Thompson.

VOTES IN THE AFFIRMATIVE: 6

VOTES IN THE NEGATIVE: 0

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OR STAFF DESIGNATED TO PRESENT THIS REPORT TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE: Leo Wise, Staff Director & Chief Counsel.

Attachment 1 – to Letter to Chairman Butterfield(10/19/09)

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Washington, DC 20515

October 20, 2008

The Honorable Bennie G. Thompson
U.S. House of Representatives
2432 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct hereby approves your proposed trip for you and your spouse to St. Maarten, N.A. scheduled for November 6 to 9, 2008 sponsored by the Carib News Foundation.

You must complete a Member Travel Disclosure Form and file it with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are required to attach a copy of this letter and the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form, including attachments. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$335 from a single source on Schedule VII of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act, gifts "of minimal value [currently \$335] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of \$335 received by you or your spouse from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

However, we would note that since this trip is scheduled to commence after the general election on November 4, 2008 and because officially-connected travel must be related to official duties, it may be questionable whether a Member who was not reelected in the general election should to accept an invitation for a trip that is fact-finding in nature. Arguably, as of that time, the official responsibilities that may justify the acceptance of travel expenses for such a purpose will have come to an end. This consideration generally will not limit the Committee's authority to approve travel of a departing Member to participate substantially in an officially-related event (for example, to give a speech). Please keep this guidance in mind, as you may need to reevaluate your ability to participate in the trip following the election.

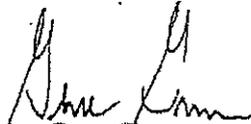
Attachment II -- to letter to Chairman Butterfield (10/19/09)

09-2222 0004

The Honorable Bennie G. Thompson
October 20, 2008
Page 2

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,



Gene Green
Acting Chairman



Doc Hastings
Ranking Republican Member

GG/DH:pgp