



Saipan Economic Development Forum

Hyatt Regency Saipan
June 4, 2013



Governor Eloy S. Inos



Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider

Håfa adai, Tirow wáámi


On behalf of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands, we welcome you to this Northern Mariana Islands Economic Development Forum. We also extend a very special welcome to our visiting federal officials. Thank you for your participation and assistance.

We have always believed that the Northern Mariana Islands hold so much promise and potential for enterprising individuals pursuing economic opportunities. In this regard, we place such high value on engaging with all our stakeholders to ensure greater economic growth and much needed development.

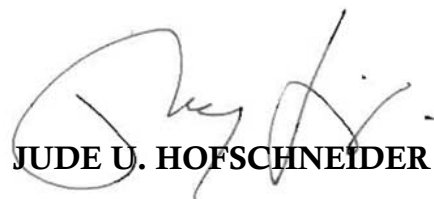
To achieve a balanced and well-rounded effort, we hope that you will take advantage of this forum to better analyze current local conditions, exchange ideas and strategies, and identify federal assistance or resources available.

We are confident that the efforts of stakeholders to heighten public awareness and encourage economic development will produce positive returns by sparking heightened interest. In conjunction with Congressman Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, we are certainly pleased to host this first of its kind Economic Development Forum. We commend the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco for generously sponsoring this event.

Thank you, Si Yu'os ma'åse', and Olomwaay reemi.



ELOY S. INOS



JUDE U. HOFSCHEIDER



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

June 4, 2013

Greetings!

I applaud all of the participants in today's economic development forum for coming together in a collaborative spirit to examine how our local government, businesses, and community can work, with the support of federal agencies, to improve conditions in the Northern Mariana Islands.

Our economy and our community continue to contend with many uncertainties – some within our control and some without – on the path to recovery. Although progress has been slow, there is reason to believe we have turned a corner. Government revenues are increasing, hotel occupancy is up, and we are poised to resolve some policy issues that will lend long-term stability to the population and workforce of the Northern Marianas.

It is important that we make the most of this economic development forum to identify what our priorities are for the coming years, and how all stakeholders – including the federal government – can contribute to achieving those goals. And it is important that we make a commitment to follow-through in the coming months.

There are many individuals who have worked with us since January to make today a success, but I would especially like to thank Mr. Craig Nolte from the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, Mr. Chris Kanazawa from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and, of course, Governor Eloy Inos, for their commitment of time and resources and for their dedication to our community.

With best regards, I remain

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'kilibi'.

GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN
Member of Congress

Agenda

Tuesday, June 4, 2013

- I. **Welcome**
Jim Arenovski, Delta Management Corporation, Island Training Solutions, The Bridge Project
- II. **Welcoming Remarks**
Eloy S. Inos, Governor of the Northern Mariana Islands
Gregorio Kili Camacho Sablan, Member of Congress, U.S. House of Representatives
- III. **Current Economic Development Studies and Participants' Perspectives**
Sixto Igisomar, CNMI Department of Commerce
- VI. **Discussion**
- V. **Break**
- VI. **Breakout Discussions on Challenges and Solutions**
- VII. **Group Reports**
- VIII. **Lunch**
Federal Government Agency Resource Updates
- IX. **Discussion**
- X. **Next Steps**
Jim Arenovski
- XI. **Adjourn**

Biographies



James T. Arenovski

Delta Management Corporation, Island Training Solutions, The Bridge Project

Jim has lived in the Marianas since 1987. Originally from Yarmouth, Massachusetts, Jim holds a Master's Degree in Administration from Georgia Southern University.

In 1987, Jim left ITT Sheraton in Savannah, Georgia and started his career in the Marianas with The Inter-Pacifica Group as Special Projects Manager for Pacific Islands Club-Guam and then became the Area Manager for Domino's Pizza Group in Guam in 1989. Later, Jim joined Shell Guam. In 1998, Jim,

with his two partners, formed Delta Management Corporation, a management company, which currently operates eight Shell Service Stations.

Jim is the principal of Island Training Solutions a full service training company which provides OSHA and EEOC compliance, Customer Service and other staff and management development training programs. Jim has donated his training services to the Chamber for its small business committee seminars on numerous of occasions.

This year (2011) Jim founded THE BRIDGE PROJECT, INC. A non-profit organization that provides entry level job readiness training as well as works with employers in assisting them increase the number of US eligible workers. The Bridge Project, Inc has been the beneficiary of a number grants to help launch the program in 2012.

Jim has served on the board of NMI Crime Stoppers for 11 years and as its Chairman, he has helped bring a program that was almost disbanded to a organization that is well known by the community as its tool to help prevent crime in the NMI. He also sits on the Board of Directors of Crime Stoppers International, and has been a part of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce since 2000.

Jim is the recipient of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's 2011 Businessperson of the Year Award.

Biographies



Sixto K. Igisomar

Secretary of Commerce
Insurance Commissioner
Banking Director

Workers Compensation Commissioner

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Department of Commerce
Office of the Secretary of Commerce Caller Box 10007 CK Saipan, MP 96950
Phone: 670.664.3064 FAX: 670.664.3067

Sixto K. Igisomar serves as the Secretary for the Department of Commerce. His appointment was confirmed by the 17th Senate (CNMI Legislature) on January 25, 2012. Subsequently, he was retained as Secretary of Commerce by the Honorable Eloy Songao Inos, Governor of the CNMI, on March 20th of this year. Implicit in his duties as the Secretary of Commerce, Mr. Igisomar automatically assumed the positions of the Insurance Commissioner, Banking Director, and the Workers Compensation Commissioner for the CNMI. Under the Department of Commerce, he oversees statutory charges related to economic development, statistics, and regulatory matters for the businesses of Alcohol Beverage and Tobacco, Insurance, Banking, Weights and Measures, Educational Institutions accepting Foreign Students, Taxi Bureau, Recycling Centers, Pawn Shops, Registrar of Corporations, and Workers' Compensation.

Additionally, Secretary Igisomar is active in other community boards such as the Liberal Program Advisory Council (PAC) under the Northern Marianas College (NMC), and the Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) for Early Intervention Services under the CNMI Public School System. He has also served as Chairman for various government entities and non-profit organizations, including the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund Board of Trustees from 2009 to 2011; Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) and the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors from 2003-2005; and the Northern Marianas Insurance Association (NMIA) from 2004-2006.

Secretary Igisomar has extensive backgrounds in both the private and government sectors. He has over nineteen years of experience leading teams of various sizes in different industries to accomplish objectives of the organizations he served. These experiences are in the areas of public administration, utilities, insurance, education and health industries, and laboratory clinics, which provided him with a wealth of knowledge and the ability to adapt to diverse leadership roles. His post-secondary academic years included Seattle University, University of Washington, and Northern Marianas College.

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Economic Development Forum**