



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, MA 02133-1020

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STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

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JOHN V. FERNANDES
REPRESENTING

MILFORD • MENDON • HOPEDALE
MEDWAY, PRECINCT 1

STATE HOUSE, ROOM 254

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John.Fernandes@MAhouse.gov

Committees on:
Vice Chair, Financial Services
Transportation
Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development

DISTRICT OFFICE:
12 MAIN STREET
MILFORD, MA 01757
TEL: (508) 473-3063

November 27, 2013

State Ethics Commission
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Sir/Madam:

This letter is written pursuant to 930 CMR 5.08(2)(d)(2). I have accepted an invitation from the Jewish Community Relations Council of Boston (located at 126 High St., Boston, MA 02110; phone: 617-437-8600; email: info@jcrcboston.org) to attend an educational seminar in Israel from December 3, 2013 until December 13, 2013.

The goal of the seminar is to provide useful information, contact, and context to community leaders in Massachusetts to:

- Create or further opportunities for shared economic development in areas including health care, life sciences, bio-tech, and human and social services;
- Gain information that will help participants better respond to questions;
- Enhance the Boston-Haifa partnership; and
- Explore common challenges to work towards shared solutions.

To that end, participants will have the opportunity to hear from religious and business leaders, academics, media and government officials. We will also meet with Jews, Muslims and Christians, Israelis and Palestinians; people representing the widest spectrum of political and social thought. The group will travel the length and breadth of the country, exploring sites of historical and religious significance, including Boston's partner city, Haifa.

I feel that my proposed travel will serve a legitimate public purpose because it will promote the interests of the Commonwealth and enable me to be a more effective and knowledgeable legislator. The benefit to the House of Representatives and my constituents outweighs any non-work related benefit to me.

The total cost of the seminar is \$5,500 and I will receive a \$3,250 subsidy.

Attached please find a copy of the itinerary, travel and hotel information, as well as a breakdown of the various costs.

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Very truly yours,


John V. Fernandes
State Representative

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Pre-disclosure Information:

Airfare - \$1,590.97 per person

Land Cost (Bus, food, driver, guide, hotel, speakers, site visits) - \$3,235 per person

Single Room additional cost - \$615 per person

Pre-trip Food cost - \$23.64 per person

Orientation Materials - \$16.19 per person

Aviva Berezin

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From: GIL TRAVEL (AGENTID00642421) <emailserver2@pop3.arnadus.net>
Sent: Monday, November 04, 2013 3:50 PM
To: Aviva Berezin
Subject: JCRC/BOSTON/GROUP 03DEC BOS

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DATE 04NOVEMBER13
BOOKING REF 8M97LP
AGENT FN/FN

ACCOUNT NUMBER 131203J

JCRC/BOSTON/GROUP
FERNANDES/JOHNV

SERVICE	DATE	FROM	TO	DEPART	ARRIVE
UNITED AIRLINES UA 288 T ECONOMY	03DEC TUESDAY	BOSTON MA LOGAN INTL AIRCRAFT:	NEWARK NJ NEWARK LIBERTY AIRBUS INDUSTRIE A320-100/200	1132A	1256P
UNITED AIRLINES UA 84 L ECONOMY	03DEC TUESDAY	NEWARK NJ NEWARK LIBERTY AIRCRAFT:	TEL AVIV YAFO BEN GURION INT BOEING 777-200/300	350P	920A 04DEC
UNITED AIRLINES UA 91 L ECONOMY	12DEC THURSDAY	TEL AVIV YAFO BEN GURION INT AIRCRAFT:	NEWARK NJ NEWARK LIBERTY BOEING 777-200/300	1110P	430A 13DEC
UNITED AIRLINES UA 424 N ECONOMY	13DEC FRIDAY	NEWARK NJ NEWARK LIBERTY AIRCRAFT:	BOSTON MA LOGAN INTL AIRBUS INDUSTRIE A319	720A	832A

AIR FARE
TAXES AND AIRLINE IMPOSED FEES

BULK

TOTAL
INVOICE TOTAL

PAYMENT: AX XXXXXXXXXXXX1040

RESERVATION NUMBER(S) UA/LM9C59

ETKT:UA 016 7349793457 FERNANDES/JOHNV

FOR TRAVEL INSURANCE GO TO:
WWW.TRAVELEXINSURANCE.COM/INDEX.ASPX?LOCATION=38-0173&GO=BP

program*

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* whatcha gonna do.

**BOSTON JCRC
COMMUNITY LEADERS
ISRAEL STUDY TOUR
Dec 3-13, 2013**

**DAY ONE: Tuesday, December 3, 2013
DEPARTURE**

- Depart the U.S.A. on UA 84

Overnight: Flight

**DAY TWO: Wednesday, December 4, 2013
ARRIVAL**

- 9:20 a.m. Arrive at Ben Gurion International Airport.
- Welcome by Da'at representative and assistance with arrival formalities.
- Depart for the north.
- Guided visit to Caesarea, one of the Land of Israel's most important cities during the Roman Period; visit the Herodian Theater and new excavations along the Mediterranean shore concluding with a visit to the 900-year-old Crusader city built on the same site.
- 12:00 p.m. Enjoy a dairy lunch at Aresto, located in the picturesque port of Caesarea.
- Continue north to Haifa.
- View the Bahai Gardens and Shrine, one of the holiest sites of the Bahai religion, while standing atop Mount Carmel.
- Check into hotel and time to rest.
- 6:00 p.m. Reception at Beit Hagefen with Haifa partners
- Group walking tour of Wadi Nisnas
- 7:30 p.m. *Israel @ 2013; where do we stand* orientation by your tour educator over Dinner at Fatush restaurant
- Optional: Ride the Carmelit, Israel's only subway.

Overnight: Colony, Haifa

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DAY THREE: Thursday, December 5, 2013

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- 8:00 a.m. Regional overview with speaker from the University of Haifa, at the hotel.
- Meeting with **Eli Kulas**, Head of the Public Relations Committee and members of the city council, at the Municipality and **Abdu Hisham**.
- Drive to the Upper Galilee & Golan.
- Explore Israel's security situation on the **Golan Heights**. Overlooking the Hula Valley from former Syrian fortifications, discuss the challenges Israel faced leading up to the Six-Day War. Cross the Golan plateau to the border with Syria, and a view of the abandoned city of Kuneitra and the nearby United Nations outpost, the Helicopter memorial & Tel Facher.
- 1:00 p.m. Lunch at the **Charolais Restaurant**, situated at the foot of the Golan Heights, *The Balance of Power on Israel's Northern Border: Dialogue with Colonel (Res) Kobi Marom*, former Northern Brigade Commander.
- Possible visit to an army base.
- Stop at the **Mt. Bental** (overlooking the abandoned Syrian town of Kuneitra) give sharp insights into Israel's security situation.
- Drive back to Haifa.
- 6:00 p.m. Press Link for Senator (TBA)
- 7:30 p.m. Dinner with Shiluvim representatives

Overnight: Colony, Haifa

DAY FOUR: Friday, December 6, 2013

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out the hotel.
- Possible visit to an High tech company in Nazareth – TZOFEN- (TBC)
- Visit **Nazareth** and walk through the colorful marketplace to the Church of the Annunciation.
- Meet with **Mohammad Darwashe** of the Abraham Fund and visit Iksal, his village
- **Welcome to Jerusalem** – ברוכים הבאים
- Private Shabbat diner at the hotel.

Overnight: Dan Panorama, Jerusalem



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DAY FIVE: Saturday, December 7, 2013

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- *Israel in 2012 – a Religious Mosaic*: Dialogue with scholar, at the hotel. (Name TBA)
- Walking tour through the Jewish Quarter of the Old City, for guided visits to the Cardo, the First Temple Period Broad Wall, and Jerusalem's famous Old City Market (shuk). Continue to the Christian Quarter, including the Via Delarosa, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre
- Lunch at the Old city.
- Free time at the Old city.
- *Ethics & Dilemmas in the Field*: Dialogue with Col. (Res.) Benzi Gruber, Deputy Commander of an armored corps brigade, at the hotel.
- Dinner on your own.

Overnight: Dan Panorama, Jerusalem

DAY SIX: Sunday, December 8, 2013

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Introduction to the visit to Ramallah with Felice & Michael Friedson of Media Line, at the hotel.
- Drive to Ramallah
- Meet with an elected official in Ramallah
- Visit to Rawabi
- Meet with Saed Nashef & Yadin Kaufman co-founders of the Sadara Foundation at their office.
- Lunch at Gush Etsion
- *Gush Etsion* settlements and meet with Eve Harrow, a local resident of Gush Etzion.
- Visit the city of Bethlehem, site of the birth of Jesus and the Church of the Nativity with possible meeting with Mayor, Prof. Vera Baboun
- Return to Jerusalem.
- Reflection time.
- Dinner on your own.

Overnight: Dan Panorama, Jerusalem

DAY SEVEN: Monday, December 9, 2013

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- Breakfast at hotel.
- *The Labyrinth of Israeli Politics*: Dialogue with Prof. Reuven Hazan of the Political Science Department at Hebrew University, at the hotel.
- Take a VIP tour of the Knesset (Israel's parliament) and meet with a Knesset member to discuss current political issues.
- Explore the Jewish and Israeli judicial traditions at the Supreme Court building, followed by a meeting with Justice Salim Jubran.
- Lunch en route.
- Meet with Municipal officials at the city hall.
- Meet with representatives of the LGBT Movement at the Open house in Jerusalem.
- Dinner on your own or possibly with Wexner Alumni.

Overnight: Dan Panorama, Jerusalem

DAY EIGHT: Tuesday, December 10, 2013

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Descend to the Dead Sea Basin.
- Arrive at Masada
- Lunch on your own, en route.
- Visit the Mineral Beach and float in the Dead Sea.
- Short hike to Nahal David, the freshwater spring at the Ein Gedi Nature Reserve
- Return to Jerusalem.
- Dinner at Olive & Fish, with former Consul General of Israel to New England, Nadav Tamir

Overnight: Dan Panorama, Jerusalem



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DAY NINE: Wednesday, December 11, 2013

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Guided visit through Yad Vashem, the Jewish National Memorial to the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, including:
 - The new Historical Museum
 - The Children's Memorial
- Lunch en route to Tel Aviv
- *The Memory of the Holocaust in Contemporary Israeli Society*: Dialogue with Holocaust scholar, Dr. Rachel Korazim.
- Visit to and Hightech or Clean Tech site
- Meet with Municipal Official at Tel Aviv Municipality.
- Check into hotel.
- Debriefing at the hotel.
- 7:30 p.m. Israel in the Mid-East Arena: Dialogue with Col. (res.) Miri Eisin, former Israeli Prime Minister's international media advisor, at the hotel
- Dinner at a restaurant in Tel Aviv.

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Overnight: Dan Panorama, Tel Aviv

DAY TEN: Thursday, December 12, 2012

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Drive to Sderot.
- Visit Sderot, including an overview of Gaza; view the Qassam rocket collection at the Police Station, and meet with Talia Levanon, Director of the Israel Trauma Coalition and visit with kids at community center.
- Lunch en route to Tel Aviv
- Visit Rabin Square, a center of Tel Aviv's cultural and political life, named for Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin who was assassinated here. Take a quiet moment at the Rabin Memorial.
- Lunch on your own.
- Free time to explore Tel Aviv
- Farewell dinner at a restaurant in Tel Aviv.
- Transfer to Ben Gurion International Airport.
- 11:10 p.m. Depart to the U.S.A. on UA flight # 91

Overnight: Flight

DAY ELEVEN: Friday, December 13, 2013

- Arrive in the U.S.A.

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ACCOMMODATION

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Haifa

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DAN PANORAMA

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Jerusalem

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Fax: 972 2 623 2411

DAN PANORAMA

Charles Clore Park
Tel Aviv

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