



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

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December 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)(3) as a reconciliation to a previously filed disclosure of November 27, 2013. As detailed therein, I 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 was 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 had the opportunity to hear from religious and business leaders, academics, media and government officials. We met with Jewish, Muslim and Christian, Israeli and Palestinian people; people representing the widest spectrum of political and social thought. The group travelled the length and breadth of the country, exploring sites of historical and religious significance, including Boston's partner city, Haifa.

I feel that my travel served a legitimate public purpose because it did and 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 as reconciled is \$5,608.80 and I received a \$2,743.80 subsidy.

Attached please find a breakdown of the various costs. I previously forwarded a copy of the itinerary, travel and hotel information.



Very truly yours,

John V. Fernandes
State Representative

Airfare - \$1,590.97 per person

Land Cost (Bus, food, driver, guide, hotel, speakers, site visits) - \$3,363 per person

Single Room additional cost - \$615 per person

Pre-trip Food cost - \$23.64 per person

Orientation Materials - \$16.19 per person