

**DISCLOSURE BY ELECTED PUBLIC EMPLOYEE
OF TRAVEL EXPENSES SERVING A LEGITIMATE PUBLIC PURPOSE
AS REQUIRED BY 930 CMR 5.08(2)(d)2.**

ELECTED PUBLIC EMPLOYEE INFORMATION	
Name of elected public employee:	Michael J. Rodrigues
Title/ Position	State Senator
Agency/ Department	Massachusetts Senate
Agency address:	24 Beacon St. Room 212 Boston, MA 02133
Office phone:	(617) 722-1114
Office e-mail:	Michael.Rodrigues@masenate.gov
Write an X to confirm each statement.	<p>I am filing this disclosure because:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am going to engage in an activity that serves a legitimate public purpose, i.e., it is intended to promote the interests of the Commonwealth, a county or a municipality; and</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A non-public entity (but not a lobbyist) has offered to reimburse, waive or pay travel expenses and costs worth more than \$50.</p>
ACTIVITY THAT SERVES A LEGITIMATE PUBLIC PURPOSE	
Describe the activity which is the reason for traveling.	I will be joining other Massachusetts legislative officials in traveling to San Miguel, Azores, and Lisbon, Portugal, to meet with Portuguese and United States officials and discuss issues of importance to Portugal and Massachusetts, including economic development, educational partnerships, maritime security, and green energy initiatives.
Describe your participation in the activity.	I will meet with Portuguese and United States officials to discuss these issues of mutual interest.
Date, time and location of activity.	<p>January 9 – 17, 2023 San Miguel, Azores (January 9 – 13) Lisbon, Portugal (January 13 – 17)</p> <p>I will be attending this trip from January 9 to 17, 2023.</p>
Please explain how the activity will promote the interests of the Commonwealth, a county or a municipality.	Massachusetts is home to a large Portuguese-American community, and there are significant economic, cultural, educational, and other issues of mutual interest to Portugal and Massachusetts.

TRAVEL EXPENSES	
Identify the person or organization that offered to reimburse, waive or pay your travel expenses.	<p>The Luso-American Development Foundation (FLAD) will be paying for in-country ground transportation as listed below.</p> <p>The municipality of Ponta Delgada will be paying for some ground transportation and a meal as listed below.</p> <p>I will be personally paying for the costs of my flights, accommodations, and meals except as otherwise indicated below. The amounts listed below reflect estimates of costs that are close to but not \$50 or more. For any incidental hospitality listed in the itinerary that is not indicated below, I have determined at this time that any such incidental hospitality is not close to nor will be \$50 or more.</p>
Address of person or organization.	<p>FLAD Rua Sacramento à Lapa, 21 1249-090 Lisbon, Portugal</p> <p>The Municipality of Ponta Delgada Praça da República 9504-523 Ponta Delgada, Portugal</p>
Provide information in as much detail as possible:	<i>Itemization and explanation of amounts offered:</i>
Transportation:	<p><i>Air, train, bus, and taxi fare and rental car hire, etc.</i></p> <p>FLAD is covering in-country ground transportation up to a total of €675.00 (\$716.94) for the entire group. With 23 legislative officials on this trip, the per person amount covered by FLAD will be €29.35 (\$31.24).</p> <p>The municipality of Ponta Delgada is covering ground transportation within the municipality up to a total of €280.80 (\$298.21) for the entire group. With 23 legislative officials on this trip, the per person amount covered by the municipality will be €12.21 (\$13.00).</p>
Lodging:	<i>Overnight accommodations.</i>
Meals:	<p><i>Breakfast, lunch, dinner, special events.</i></p> <p>The municipality of Ponta Delgada will be paying for a meal for a total cost of €720.00 (\$764.65) for the entire group. With 23 legislative officials on this trip, the per person amount covered by the municipality will be €31.30 (\$33.31).</p>
Admission:	<i>Registration, admission, tickets, etc.</i>
Other (please list):	<i>Refreshment, instruction, materials, entertainment, etc.</i>
Total:	<p>FLAD: €29.35 (\$31.24)</p> <p>The Municipality of Ponta Delgada: €43.51 (\$46.31)</p>
Write an X beside any relevant statement.	<p><u><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have attached the relevant itinerary.</u></p> <p><u><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have attached the relevant agenda.</u></p>
For the exemption to apply, check off	<p>Having disclosed the facts above, I determine that:</p> <p><u><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptance of the reimbursement, waiver or payment of travel expenses will serve a legitimate public purpose i.e., it will promote the interests of the Commonwealth, a county or a municipality; AND</u></p>

For the exemption to apply, check off both statements.	Having disclosed the facts above, I determine that: <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptance of the reimbursement, waiver or payment of travel expenses will serve a legitimate public purpose i.e., it will promote the interests of the Commonwealth, a county or a municipality; AND</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Such public purpose outweighs any special non-work related benefit to me or to the person providing the reimbursement, waiver or payment.</p>
Employee signature:	 <i>Michael J. Rodriguez</i>
Date:	<i>1-9-2023</i>

Attach additional pages if necessary.

Elected state or county employees – file with the State Ethics Commission.

Members of the General Court – file with the House or Senate clerk or the State Ethics Commission.

Elected municipal employee – file with the City Clerk or Town Clerk.

Elected regional school committee member – file with the clerk or secretary of the committee.

- **Monday, January 9:**

- 9:20pm (EST): Departure from Logan Airport, Terminal E (BOS > PDL)
 - Azores Airlines Flight S4 224
 - Please check-in for flight at least **3 hours** in advance

- **Tuesday, January 10:**

- Attire: Business casual (evening)
- 6:15am (GMT-1): Arrival to Ponta Delgada Airport Pope João Paulo II
 - Airport/Hotel transfer will be provided
- Check-in to the Azores Grand Hotel
 - <https://www.bensaudehotels.com/en/grandhotelacoresatlantico>
 - Morning at leisure
- 12:30pm: Visit and lunch at Nonagon Technology Park
- 4:00pm: Reception at the Jose do Canto Palace and Gardens
 - Hosted by the Count of Albuquerque, Augusto Athayde
- 7:00pm: Dinner
 - Solar da Graça
 - Includes traditional folkloric entertainment

- **Wednesday, January 11**

- Attire: Business formal
- 9:15am: Visit with the Regional Government of the Azores, Palácio Sant Ana
 - Meeting with His Excellency, President José Manuel Bolieiro
- 10:30am: Visit and tour the University of the Azores
 - Meeting with Rector, Susana Mira Leal, faculty, staff, and students
- 12:00pm: Lunch
- 2:00pm: Tour historic religious sites of Santo Cristo Sanctuary and Hassamain Synagogue
- 6:00pm: Reception at City Hall with Mayor, Pedro Nascimento Cabral
- 7:00pm: Dinner
 - With Mayor Cabral and local business leaders

- **Thursday, January 12**

- Attire: Casual
- 9:00am: Bus tour of historic and cultural sites around the island of San Miguel
- 12:30pm: Lunch
 - Terra Nostra Gardens Hotel
 - <https://www.bensaudehotels.com/en/terranostragardenhotel>

- A traditional *cozido* meal
 - 4:30pm: Meeting with Dr. José de Mello and local elected officials in Salga
- **Friday, January 13**
 - Attire: Business casual (afternoon); Business formal (evening)
 - 7:00am: Transfer to Ponta Delgada Airport Pope João Paulo II
 - 8:35am: Departure from Ponta Delgada Airport (PDL > LIS)
 - Azores Airlines Flight S4 120
 - Arrival in Lisbon at 11:50am (GMT)
 - 12:00pm (GMT): Check-in to the Hotel Mundial
 - <https://www.hotel-mundial.pt/en/>
 - 1:00pm: Visit and lunch at Catolica University
 - Meeting with Rector, Isabel Capeloa Gil, faculty, staff, and students
 - 7:00pm: Welcome dinner reception at Hotel Mundial
 - 8:00pm: Welcome dinner
 - Restaurant Varanda De Lisboa
 - <https://www.hotel-mundial.pt/en/varanda-de-lisboa/>
 - With elected officials, community, academic, and cultural leaders
- **Saturday, January 14**
 - Attire: Casual
 - 8:00am: Tour to historic and cultural sites north of Lisbon
 - Sanctuary at Fatima
 - <https://www.fatima.pt/en>
 - Monastery at Batalha
 - <http://www.mosteirobatalha.gov.pt/en/>
 - Historic town of Nazare
 - <https://www.visitportugal.com/en/node/73770>
 - Historic town of Obidos
 - <https://www.visitportugal.com/en/node/73768>
- **Sunday, January 15**
 - Attire: Casual
 - Morning walking tour to explore the sights and culture of Lisbon
 - 3:00pm: Benfica-Sporting soccer match
 - Wear red for soccer match

- **Monday, January 16**
 - Attire: Business formal
 - 10:00am: Meeting with leaders of Jewish community and TIKVA museum project
 - At the Hotel Mundial conference room
 - 11:30pm: Meeting with Portuguese Secretary of Internationalization, Bernardo Ivo Cruz
 - At the Palácio das Necessidades
 - <https://www.lisbonportugaltourism.com/quide/tapada-das-necessidades.html>
 - 1:00pm: FLAD (Luso-American Development Foundation) reception with light lunch
 - Conference on Portugal, NATO, and the security of the Atlantic
 - 4:00pm: Reception at the U.S. Ambassador's residence
 - Hosted by U.S. Ambassador Randi Charno Levine
 - 8:00pm: Dinner
 - Clube de Fado
 - <https://www.clubedefado.pt/en/start/>
 - Traditional *fado* dinner
- **Tuesday, January 17**
 - 2:10pm: Departure from Lisbon Airport (LIS > BOS)
 - Azores Airlines Flight S4 125
 - 8:05pm (EST): Arrive to Boston Logan Airport, Terminal E

Michael J. Rodrigues, State Senator
Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means
p: 617.722.1114 | c: 508.493.9999

Elisa De Melo
Tour Azores
p: 888.678.9093 | <http://www.tourazores.com>

Additional informational links:

Azores Airlines: <https://www.azoresairlines.pt/en>

U.S. Department of State:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories/portugal-travel-advisory.html>

Weather: Average highs of 62°F/16°C in the month of January, a mild subtropical oceanic climate.