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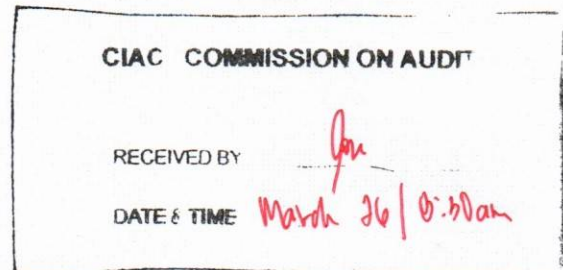
March 21, 2024

TERESITA C. GUEVARRA

State Auditor V
Supervising Auditor
Commission on Audit
Clark field, Pampanga

THRU: FRANCIS S. MAYLED
State Auditor III
OIC – Audit Team Leader

SUBJECT: Foreign Travels
AOM No. 2024-10 (2023)



Dear **Auditor Guevarra:**

This has reference to the audit observation issued under AOM No. 2024-10 (2023) concerning the foreign travels of CIAC officials and its Board of Directors for the calendar year (CY) 2023.

As noted, the disbursements totaling Php3,102,162.87 for the foreign travels were not compliant with the provisions of Executive Order (EO) No. 77, due to the following deviations:

- a) Failure to keep the number of delegates to the barest minimum;
- b) Lack of approved travel orders from authorized officials;
- c) Claiming expenses for excess baggage despite incomplete basis and documentation.

Management Comments:

CIAC with its mandate to transform the aviation complex into a global premier logistics hub along with its authority to monitor the operations of the CRK Airport has joined two (2) investment missions upon the invitation of investment promotion agencies (IPAS) and LIPAD for its road show and also launched an official investment mission on its own in 2023.

All the above investment missions abroad are essential to ensure the accomplishment of the above mandates of the corporation. In addition, as the corporation has bullishly embarked to achieve its major flagship projects, we need to take bold steps and actions to get all the support necessary in achieving the new goals set for the organization. Thus, the official travels



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made are considered pivotal in gaining various foreign platforms for CIAC to showcase potential business opportunities and establish future collaboration in the implementation of impactful infrastructure development projects.

Of the three (3) official trips made abroad, except for the trip in Canada, where the group of five (5) officials and one member of the Board, joined, the number of participants was limited to three (3) officials per trip.

As mentioned above, the trip in Canada was undertaken to promote CIAC as an investment and future tourist destination and attend the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Conference to boost the capacity building program of the organization. Two (2) separate road shows were held in Vancouver and Montreal, respectively. Since the road shows are marketing venues, the group brought along various marketing brochures, kits, and corporate give-aways explaining the need to pay for the cost of the excess baggage.

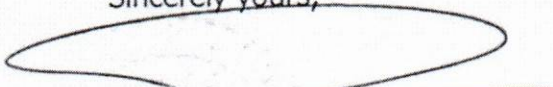
Nevertheless, we shall gladly provide your office of the post-travel reports submitted to concern agencies including COA for the list of activities alongside the benefits garnered for CIAC and for Clark because of those business trips.

Rest assured that we are always mindful of minimizing travel cost by ensuring that only the officials whose presence/attendance to a seminar/training, meetings, conferences, and consultations is critical to the targeted outcome.

It is also committed that pertinent rules shall be observed and that regulations and set standards are complied with, henceforth.

Thank you for looking after the welfare of this Corporation.

Sincerely yours,


ARREY A. PEREZ
President and CEO

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