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Jennifer Dugwen Chieng - an FSM champion wherever she goes and whatever she does

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

May 1, 2020

FSM—FSM’s own Jennifer Dugwen Chieng features prominently in Halle Berry’s upcoming directorial debut, “Bruised”.

Well, “feature” and “prominently” are overstated just a tad. Actually, she won’t be “in” the movie at all, but Jennifer, the FSM’s only internationally known boxer from Yap features prominently in the background.

“I met Halle Berry training at Renzo Gracie Academy (in New York) about two weeks before heading out to Russia for the 2019 Women’s World Championships last October,” Jennifer wrote. “After speaking with her for the first time I remember

admiring not only her physical beauty but felt incredibly captured by her very down to earth personality. A couple weeks later when I returned to New York she welcomed me on board to work with her stunt team led by Eric Brown, the Stunt Coordinator for her upcoming movie and directorial debut “Bruised”. Working with Halle and her team was a truly unique experience and also one that I will never forget. Halle put in a lot of hard work and effort into her training for this film, and I’m very excited to see the movie when it finally comes out.”



Jennifer Chieng with actor Halle Berry

On November 2, Berry announced on her Instagram page #FitnessFriday : Bruised Edition beginning with a one-on-one interview with FSM Olympic Boxer Jennifer Chieng Dugwen, who Berry called a “bad ass athlete and

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FSM National and State governments again at loggerheads over Pohnpei quarantine requirement

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By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

May 4, 2020

Pohnpei—The question of whether or not Pohnpei State has a right to establish a more stringent law regarding quarantine than the National Government has passed has again been raised in a confrontation between State and National police officers that occurred this weekend at Pohnpei Port.

National and State spokespersons have differing views of what took place on May 2nd when National Police officers arrived at the port with the intention of removing passengers from the FSM Marine Surveillance vessel FSS Independence. The State’s press release referred to armed National Police officers and witnesses said that in

fact they were armed and there was a face to face standoff between the National Police and State Police officers. Pohnpei Port Authority officers are unarmed but Pohnpei State officers are armed on a daily basis just as National Police officers are.

A spokesperson for the State said that while some National Police officers kept State law enforcement officers busy at the main gate, other officers escorted 11 passengers off of the FSS Independence and through a separate gate that the

See “Port quarantine” on page 7

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FSM files charges against four for illegal vessel registration scheme netting over \$600,000

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

May 4, 2020

FSM—On April 17, 2020, the FSM Department of Justice (DOJ) filed a total of 486 criminal charges against four individuals, one of them a foreigner, in relation to the selling of illegal and fraudulent vessel registration flags to a total of 118 vessels. The 265 page criminal information (criminal charges) describes a scheme under which the defendants allegedly collected over \$600,000 beginning in January of 2016 through January of 2017 for the sale of FSM flags. By law the FSM only issues flags to vessels that have a domestic presence in the FSM. Issuance of the flags to non-domestic operates is strictly prohibited.

The FSM charged **SUNIEL K SHARMA**, doing business as Jash International Maritime Law & Business Management (Unit of Ascent Navals Thailand) a/k/a Micronesia International Ship Registry (MISR) with Flight to Avoid Prosecution or Giving Testimony which carries a sentence of three years in prison upon conviction. It also charged Sharma with 118 counts each of Theft of Government Property, Money Laundering, Possession of Government property, and Qualification for Vessel Registration. Defendant Sharma, who is thought to currently be residing in India, faces a total of 2828 years in prison and a total of \$23,600,000 in potential fines if convicted of all charges and required to serve out terms and pay fines consecutively for each crime.

In connection with the scheme, FSM prosecutors also charged former FSM Secretary of the FSM Department of Transportation, Communications, and Infrastructure (TC&I), Lukner Weilbacher with Conspiracy of for Theft, a crime that carries a penalty of five years in prison. They charged him with Money

Laundering which carries a penalty of 5 years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000; Conflict of Interest which has a 5 years imprisonment penalty, and Selling Political Influence which could be punished by 10 years imprisonment and prohibition of holding a position of honor or trust in National Government.

The FSM government charged Renwick Weilbacher with Conspiracy to Commit Theft and Money Laundering crimes carrying penalties the same as those listed for Defendant Lukner Weilbacher.

DOJ charged attorney Martin Jano with Conspiracy to Commit Theft and Money Laundering.

Defendants Lukner Weilbacher, Martin Jano, and Renwick Weilbacher have had their initial appearances at the FSM Supreme Court where the charges will be tried. Sharma is out of the country. All defendants are presumed to be innocent unless proved to be otherwise in the judicial process.

The FSM charges say that the fraudulent website offering those flags is still operational. A search of the International Marine Organization numbers (IMO) shows that eight of the vessels the Department of Justice listed in its charges still carry FSM flags that are not legal. The vessels include a tug boat that last week was located in Iraq. The list of vessels that still have illegal FSM flags includes two tankers, two cargo vessels, a fishing vessel, a pleasure craft, and one listed as Other Type, like a barge. None of the eight has an FSM domestic presence.

According to the charges, Suniel K. Sharma initially approached former FSM TC&I Secretary Frances Itimai for the purpose of establishing an open, international vessel registration system within the FSM. Itimai

rejected the proposal because it was against FSM law. Later, in 2015, Sharma allegedly contacted then FSM TC&I Secretary Lukner Weilbacher and local attorney Martin Jano with the same illegal idea. On October 2, 2015, Weilbacher allegedly issued a letter of intent to Sharma who then used the letter to obtain authorization from the International Maritime Organization (“IMO”) to register vessel registration numbers with the IMO system.

Jano allegedly assisted Sharma in setting up office space at the J&T Building in Kolonia

In January 2016, Jano and Sharma approached the FSM Department of Justice. Sharma hired Renwick Weilbacher to provide office management services for which he received at least \$1000 per month.

Sharma initially set up a website offering FSM vessel flags for sale. When DOJ learned of the site, it contacted FSM Telecommunications Corporation to take the website down since it was advertising illegal services.

In January 2016 Jano and Sharma approached the FSM DOJ proposing that MISR be allowed to conduct its activities. DOJ rejected the proposal because it was illegal. DOJ now alleges that the defendants continued selling registrations just the same.

In March of 2017, Sharma and Jano presented then FSM President Peter Christian with a check payable to the FSM Department of Justice in the amount of \$100,000 as the country’s “share” of the revenue collected by MISR. No explanation was made as to how this “share” was calculated and the FSM rejected the check. It began an investigation.

The FSM has carefully guarded its reputation in the responsible issuance of FSM flags for

vessels. In approximately 2016, properly flagged FSM vessel owners and international authorities began to report that the vessels would not be allowed into ports because they flew the FSM flag. Because unbeknownst to the FSM, its flag had been issued to non-domestic vessels, the flag had begun to be viewed with suspicion as a flag of convenience which might allow unscrupulous operators to skirt international and jurisdictional maritime and other laws including taxation and labor laws.

Cross referencing the IMO numbers of vessels listed in the criminal charges we could make no generalizations regarding the home ports of vessels who bought FSM registrations through the scheme. While it is not impossible to determine the home ports of vessels online, most IMO location services require very expensive memberships before that information can be unlocked. It appears that vessel owners from many parts of the world bought flags from MISR. Many of the vessels have changed ownership and have been renamed since being flagged in the FSM. 80 of 118 vessels were cargo vessels, only four were fishing vessels or fish carriers, eight were tankers, we could find no information on 13 of the vessels, 10 were of unspecified types, and there were a small number of other types of vessels including a tug, a passenger vessel, and a pleasure craft.

Knowing what flag the vessels currently carry is not necessarily informative to any specific conclusions. However, many of the vessels are currently flagged in countries that have had a reputation for offering flags of convenience. Belize has since registered 12 of them. Mongolia has registered 10. Sierra Leone has registered 37. The Togolese Republic has registered 22. China has only registered three.

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Bill Jaynes
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Eco-Friendly Options (EFO) provides alternative for single-use plastics and styrofoam

Alvie B. Cabañez
Kaselehlie Press Volunteer Contributor

To enforce the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) Public Law No. 21-76, an act to prohibit the importation of one-time-use disposable Styrofoam and plastic food service items, and plastic shopping bags, Eco-Friendly Options (EFO) is gaining momentum. An eco-friendly business that demonstrates a commitment to an environmentally sustainable future.

While plastic has many valuable uses, we have become addicted to single-use or disposable plastic with severe environmental consequences. Eco-Friendly Options, fully aware of the consequences, strives to have a positive impact on the environment by providing alternative products.

The products are made from sugarcane table wares ranging from plates, takeaway boxes, cups and bowls are made of sugarcane pulp. "It is considered eco-friendlier than the commercial products because it's tree free. Sugarcane pulp is considered as waste; therefore, these products are waste made into something useful for the people and at the same time promotes sustainability," said Michelle Datuin-Kamber, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, EFO.

Based on an independent research by Kamber's team, a total of 72, 000 pieces plastic containers, and at least 234, 000

pieces polystyrene takeaway food boxes (Styrofoam) was consumed annually. The study was conducted in 13 random restaurants and 3 container stores on the island. The research showed approximately 1000 pieces polystyrene takeaway food boxes consumed per month from restaurants as well as from the container stores while 2000 pieces plastic containers per month from the container stores. This data has been instrumental in making changes on the national level to fully implement and ban a range of single-use plastic. Business owners became aware of the challenges brought about by plastic debris, now fully supports the business venture.

According to United Nations (UN) Environment, we produce about 300 million tons of plastic waste every year. That's nearly equivalent to the weight of the entire population. Only 9% of all plastic waste ever produced has been recycled. About 12% has been incinerated, while the rest, 79% has accumulated in landfills, dumps, or the natural environment.

"Now we are facing a worldwide pandemic. This is the perfect time to wake up and to reflect. If COVID-19 (that killed thousands of people) won't make people have a change of heart to act now for a better environment, I don't know what else will. I hope that when we get over from this,



people will choose to heal from their bad habits just as Mother Earth heals from all the damages caused by humans", Kamber continued.

Currently, Eco-Friendly Options is being mentored by Small Business Development Center Network (SBDCN)-Pohnpei. Kaselehlie Diner on the other hand took the initiative even before the law has

passed, has been EFO's number one client while Blue Nile, as EFO's distributor, has been monumental in encouraging local establishments to shift to their products.

Effective July 01, 2020, all establishments are prohibited to use one-time use disposable Styrofoam, plastic food service items, and plastic shopping bags. In two months, FSM will be plastic free.

ANZAC Day not forgotten in Pohnpei as adjustments made for COVID-19

LCDR David Perry
Maritime Surveillance Adviser
Royal Australian Navy

This year's ANZAC Dawn Service was held at the Australian Defence Compound, Kangaroo Court, on the 25th of April. Due to COVID-19 social distancing restrictions, only the Maritime Surveillance Adviser, Lcdr David Perry, accompanied by his wife Mele Ulakai, and the Technical Adviser, CPO Craig Hopkins were in attendance.

Ulakai commented that "whilst there were only the three of us in attendance, it was important that even in these difficult times we took the opportunity to remember the sacrifices of past servicemen and women as well as those that continue to serve their countries around the world".

In Australia and New Zealand, families stood in silence outside their homes or on their balconies at sunrise to pay tribute to past and present servicemen and women.

As the sun rose over the hills of Nett, the National Anthems of Australia and New Zealand could be heard over the quiet flow of the river. The playing of the Last Post and Reveille as well as a hymn completed the sombre ceremony. Mele



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Friday, May 15, 2020

World Bank grant accepted to develop telecommunications

FSM Connectivity Project

The FSM Connectivity Project just achieved a new milestone. In a special on-line session, FSM's Congress on 21 April 2020, adopted a resolution to approve and accept a US\$30.8 million grant from the World Bank to fund the next phase of the ongoing Connectivity Project, Digital FSM. The new grant will be used to construct and install domestic fiber optic cable and wireless networks and related infrastructure to businesses, schools, dispensaries and homes in all four of FSM's states. This new development will strengthen domestic internet and telecommunications connectivity for most of FSM's people. The project also has a component on e-Government aimed at taking connectivity to the next level for FSM citizens.

The new grant funds the follow-up phase of the FSM Connectivity Project which has already connected Yap and Chuuk to an undersea fiber optic network. Kosrae is scheduled to be connected to the network

in early 2022. Pohnpei was connected to a fiber optic network through an earlier FSM Telecommunications initiative. Fiber optic cables provide users with ultra-fast and reliable digital connectivity, benefitting average citizens, health facilities, government services as well as businesses.

Digital connectivity is especially important for people living on outer islands where reliable communications and remote access to essential services provide a critical lifeline. This new Project phase supports the rollout of terrestrial fiber infrastructure on the capital islands, connecting outer islands to basic broadband services, establishing critical foundations for digital government services, and strengthening the legal and regulatory environment for a digital economy to thrive in FSM.

The FSM Cable Company, FSMTC, will be responsible for the deployment of the new terrestrial fiber infrastructure on the capital islands and the wireless networks on the outer islands. The legal and regulatory framework is the mandate of the TRA,

the Telecommunication Regulations Authority. The TRA is also overseeing the introduction of competition in the FSM telecommunications sector.

"I see great advantages for the tourism and transport sector," stated Honorable Carlson D. Apis, Secretary of TC&I, the Project's coordinating Department. "But it is clear that all our Micronesian businesses and consumers will greatly benefit from competitively priced, faster and more reliable communications platforms to support e-Government services."

The new grant will help provide fiber-to-the-home to many houses in the capital islands. Many businesses, government offices, schools, health facilities and others will also benefit from the direct fiber links. Outer islands with populations in excess of 100 people will also benefit from this new grant. Although running fiber optic cable to outer islands is not feasible, they will receive connectivity through VSAT wireless networks, providing people on these islands with faster, more reliable

connectivity for internet and mobile phone usage.

One component of the Project includes developing a digital framework to facilitate the national and state Governments' use of digital technologies, including consultations and developing processes for implementation. This will involve developing a unified national government online portal as well as developing a secure cloud-based network to promote common information systems, standards and applications, including e-mail for government users.

In the short term, better connectivity will benefit the people of FSM through improved access to better information, particularly on issues like impending cyclones or Covid-19. The long-term objectives of this follow-on Project are to expand access to the internet for most of FSM's people, promote private sector investment in digital services and establish the critical foundations for digital government services and an enhanced digital economy.

...Jennifer Chieng

Continued from front page

beautiful soul."

Chieng is a 2015 New York Daily News Gold Gloves Champion. She competed in the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro in 2016 where she won the hearts of the spectators there who roared her name during her final bout. She has won two Gold medals at Pacific Games, the first in 2015 in Papua New Guinea where she was also named as the "Best Female at the 2015 Pacific Games". She won gold again in Samoa in 2019. In March of this year she competed at the Asia Oceania Olympic Qualifier in Oman, Jordan where she was eliminated in the preliminaries but still has another chance to qualify for the Tokyo Olympics. However, along with the Olympic games, the qualifying competition has been postponed due to the world wide pandemic.

She says that she is doing her best to maintain her health and fitness throughout this "unprecedented time". "This 'new normal' of social distancing, at-home training, and virtual education just to name a few of the adjustments we've had to make still feels very strange, but it is what's necessary to stay safe while being able to maintain a certain level of productivity," she wrote. "I have an 8-year old son, Adam, who logs into his virtual classroom online to continue his learning. We do get to spend more time together, which is awesome, so just as long as we both get some work done

and we're safe I'd say we're holding up okay. Once we get past all this and when it's safe to travel again I plan on bringing him to Micronesia for a visit."

In March of 2019 Ulysses Press released her first book entitled "Bad Ass Boxing Workouts". The book contains illustrations and instructions on how to perform certain boxing techniques from the comfort of home without the need to access a fitness studio—a particularly useful tool today as people have been forced to stay at home during the pandemic. It is available online at Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Apple, Google, and other distributors of electronic books.

She said that from the time she signed the contract for the book she had five months to turn in a manuscript. "three months into the process I found myself also gearing up for fight camp in order to prepare for my pro debut with Bellator MMA. I was writing in between training sessions and parenting throughout the day and evening. In October 2018 I submitted the completed manuscript to the publication company and also won my MMA pro debut," she wrote.

In March of this year, Women's Health magazine featured Jennifer and the art of Muay Thai in their

fitness section.

She is a spokesperson for the FSM wherever she goes. "The support of the FSM government, the FSM National Olympic Committee (FSMNO), and the FSM Boxing Association (FSMBA) has favorably positioned me for opportunities both in and out of sports; I am very grateful for this support and I do not take it lightly. I believe it is a matter of duty for all seasoned career professionals and athletes, myself included, to encourage the younger generations to strive for success in both their personal and professional lives; that a goal or ambition cannot be realized without consistent effort by the individual, and when that individual effort is met with the support of the community, both the

individual and community share a bigger collective success. The success I have experienced throughout my career as an athlete is a shared success, one that could not have been without the support of my community and my home, the Federated States of Micronesia. I will continue to promote the Federated States of Micronesia throughout my career in sports and as I move on into new endeavors where my focus will be afterwards."



U.S. Navy Seabees with NMCB-5 complete construction at Sokehs Pah Elementary

Story by Builder 2nd Class Christian Carlson

The team at Sokehs Pah Elementary is comprised of teachers and more than 140 students from the island of Sokehs, and teaches students from kindergarten to eighth grade.

POHNPEI, Federated States of Micronesia - U.S. Navy Seabees with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 5's Detail Pohnpei participated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony, celebrating the completion of renovation at Sokehs Pah Elementary School March 27.

These renovations give Sokehs Pah Elementary sustainable upgrades to a previously uninhabitable building, and the ability to allow their students to continue their education using computers, which is completely new to the school curriculum.

During the ceremony, Stanley Etse, director of the Pohnpei Department of Education, awarded the Seabees a hand-carved wooden plaque to commemorate the work done on the library and computer lab.

"This is a small thing to offer, to show how big our appreciation is for your team that has come here and given us this amazing building," said Etse during his speech.

"I wish you could stay longer," said Randy Lambert, principal of Sokehs Pah Elementary. "You've done so much for us, and the students are all going to miss you. We are going to make good use of this new building that you've made for us, and we wish we had more to offer you than just our thanks."

The renovations the Seabees completed include a library and computer lab facility. The Seabees installed a new roof, walls, two split air conditioning units, and vinyl composite tile in addition to improvements to the head facility inside the school compound.

NMCB-5 is deployed across the Indo-Pacific region conducting high-quality construction to support U.S. and partner nations to strengthen partnerships, deter aggression, and enable expeditionary logistics and naval power projection. The battalion stands ready to support

Humanitarian Aid/Disaster Relief and Major Combat Operations throughout the region.



POHNPEI, Federated States of Micronesia (March 27, 2020) U.S. Navy Seabees with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 5's Detail Pohnpei and members of the Pohnpei Department of Education prepare for the at Sokehs Pah Elementary School ribbon-cutting ceremony. The Seabees renovated the school, which educates over 140 students from kindergarten to eighth grade from the island of Sokehs. NMCB-5 is deployed across the Indo-Pacific region conducting high-quality construction to support U.S. and partner nations to strengthen partnerships, deter aggression, and enable expeditionary logistics and naval power projection. (U.S. Navy photo by Builder 2nd Class Christian Carlson/Released)



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Thousands of Pacific Island children at risk in the aftermath of Tropical Cyclone Harold

UNICEF

Suva, 24 April 2020 – Thousands of children living in the Pacific Islands remain in urgent need in the aftermath of Tropical Cyclone Harold, a category five cyclone that tore through Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Fiji and Tonga causing widespread destruction to homes, schools, medical clinics, as well as damaging food crops and water supplies.

UNICEF is supporting the government responses in Vanuatu, Fiji and Solomon Islands to reach those children most in need, while facing the additional challenges of the ongoing preparedness and response efforts for COVID-19.

“It is hard to imagine a more difficult situation, the catastrophe of COVID-19 and the disaster of a category five cyclone all wrapped into one. However, we are here to support, and our work has never been more critical – we will continue to prioritise the needs of all communities, especially children, affected by these dual emergencies,” said UNICEF Pacific Representative Sheldon Yett.

The cyclone has caused massive destruction across the region, claiming the lives of 31 people. Vanuatu was the most affected, with

more than a third of the population and over 20,000 children living in the worst affected areas. In Sanma Province alone, about 90 per cent of the population lost their homes and 60 per cent of schools were damaged.

Access to health services in Vanuatu, difficult under normal conditions with geographical and logistical challenges, are even harder to access following the destruction of roads and damage to health facilities, with many pregnant women now having to give birth at home.

Local authorities are organising relief efforts, which come at a particularly challenging time given the COVID-19 pandemic.

With support from both the Government of Australia and the European Union to provide air transport for critically needed supplies, UNICEF continues to work in partnership with the Pacific governments to provide assistance to support relief efforts and reach those children most vulnerable after the disaster. Many communities still remain cut off from assistance due to flooding and destruction of roads. UNICEF is transporting supplies by boat to reach some communities, including to those on Santo and Pentecost, two of the

most affected islands in Vanuatu.

UNICEF has provided essential water, sanitation and hygiene items including soap, water containers and buckets to ensure children and families have access to clean drinking water with the majority of water infrastructure now destroyed. Emergency health and midwifery kits including basic drugs, medical supplies and equipment have also been delivered to assist the health sector provide critical medical care.

In addition, UNICEF continues to support communities by providing school-in-boxes and early childhood development kits including books, pencils and materials to support learning needs and help children to regain a sense of normalcy as soon as possible after the disaster. Tents and tarpaulins provided to communities will also assist in restarting children’s learning and provide families with emergency shelter.



This is 10 year old Rylietah. She is from the Solomons. Her dad is a nurse at the dispensary. When the cyclone came they stayed in the nurses house front rooms. When a big iron sheet flew off a neighbours house almost taking theirs off they ran to the back room. A short while later that roof came off, so they ran to the dispensary. When they got there, they joined neighbours who were already there, standing in ankle deep water, surrounded by broken glass. No one spoke as they stood.

The solar panels broke off, so the water doesn't work. They have a well for cooking and cleaning, but are just drinking coconuts.

PROPOSED FSMDB SECOND FLOOR PARKING ROOF

1. The FSMDB now invites bidders to submit sealed bids for “Construction of Parking Roof Structure at the FSM Development Bank, 2nd Floor Parking area, in Kolonia, Pohnpei.
2. Competitive bidding will be conducted in accordance with FSM Regulations and is also open to all eligible bidders.
3. Bidding documents can be obtained as complete sets only from the FSM Development Bank in Kolonia, Pohnpei FSM. A non-refundable bidding documents fee of \$50.00 is required payable to FSM Development Bank.
4. Project site visit and inspection will be conducted on Friday, May 15, 2020 at 10:00 am in the morning and the pre-bid conference will be held on the same date right after the visit and inspection.
5. **Submission of bids:**
 - a. All bids must be received by the bank at 3:00 pm on May 29, 2020, at which all sealed bids shall be opened and read aloud. Late submissions will not be accepted and will be returned to the bidder unopened.
 - b. Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: “Second Floor Parking Roof” and address to:

FSM Development Bank, HQ
Attn: Lover Haimin, HR & Facilities Manager
P.O. Box M
Kolonia FSM 96941

6. Bidders are required to submit their bid security in the amount of \$100 in the form of cashier’s check or postal money order payable to FSM Development Bank. Bid without bid security will automatically be rejected and not be included in the reading aloud of bids. The bid security of the non-winning bidder is refundable

INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFBs)

April 27, 2020



after the execution of the contract with the successful bidder. The bid security of the successful bidder shall be released after the acknowledgement of the Notice to Proceed.

7. Bidders are required to submit the contractor’s qualifications statement together with their bid proposal.
8. FSM Development Bank will not be responsible for any costs or expense incurred by the bidders in connection with the preparation and/or delivery of their bids.
9. FSM Development Bank reserves the rights to accept or reject any or all bids and/or to enter into discussions, or negotiation with one or more qualified bidders at the same time, if such action is in the best interest of the bank.

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Email: info@hilbornehawkin.com

...Port quarantine

Continued from front page

National Government says is the MSA (Marine Surveillance Advisers) gate.

The National press release tells a different story. "...The FSM National Police cleared security and then departed through the FSM Maritime Wing's gate without any disturbance or protest." It said that the "passengers" that they allowed to disembark from the FSS Independence weren't passengers at all, but "essential emergency personnel". No FSM Government has yet issued any definition of what an "essential employee" is.

Pohnpei State's press release was issued to inform Pohnpei residents that people who had arrived by boat had not been medically cleared and even went so far as to list the names of the people who left the vessel before clearance had been given.

According to Pohnpei's spokesperson, all was on track based on an agreement between the State and National governments that passengers and crew members would be checked before departure from Yap State and that they would transmit daily the body temperatures of all people aboard to the Pohnpei Task Force. The National Government had complied with all of those requirements and said they would be traveling directly back to Pohnpei from Yap. However, the vessel made a stop in Chuuk where they boarded 8 FSM employees that they had not told Pohnpei about. FSM says that Chuuk health officials checked the 8 employees before their departure and they complied with Pohnpei's requirement to communicate body temperatures and arrived on May 1 at 8:00 in the morning.

Pohnpei says that the first notice they had of the additional passengers aboard the vessel were when the listing of body temperature statistics included eight more people than they'd been told about. It changed the medical protocols for incoming health checks. They said that medical representatives of the task force were preparing to depart for the port to conduct the tests when they were notified that they should not go since at that moment National Police officers were at the port liberating passengers.

FSM government claims that upon arrival they were to have been met by Task Force members to conduct the medical checks but that for 30 hours after their arrival, they had received no communication

from the Pohnpei Department of health, so the "FSM National Government took it upon itself to implement the medical screening." They said in their press release that all but one of the passengers listed in Pohnpei's press release were medically cleared by the National Task Force and verified by the Secretary for the Department of Health and Social Affairs, Dr. Livingston Taulung.

In April, the Pohnpei State government required National Police officers aboard the FSS Micronesia to quarantine aboard the vessel. They would not allow the officers to disembark. The National Government filed suit against the Pohnpei Director of Public Safety requesting that the court issue a writ of Habeus Corpus alleging wrongful imprisonment of the officers. Hearing on that matter were held but before the Court could make a ruling, Pohnpei State and the FSM Governments came to an agreement and released the police officers from the vessel. On April 24, the FSM Supreme Court ordered the case closed since the matters at hand were then moot since the officers were no longer in quarantine.

It meant that the Court never made a ruling on the important points of law raised in the suit. In his press release issued last evening, FSM President David Panuelo made some of the same claims that were to have been addressed during the hearing in April at FSM Supreme Court. "The FSM National Government respectfully reminds all citizens that State Governments do not have the authority to supersede the National Government in this area. It is noted that only the FSM National Government has the authority to secure the Nation's borders, including designated ports of entry—both air and sea—amongst other powers exclusive to the National Government," the release says.

Pohnpei says that it is not usurping FSM National Government powers by requiring that incoming passengers be either quarantined or medically released and that requirement does not supersede the National Law that allows for Interstate travel. As soon as the FSS Independence and also the FSS Micronesia docked at the Port, they were in Pohnpei and subject to Pohnpei's requirements.

In some other matters, FSM has supported the States' rights to establish more stringent laws than exist in the FSM code but has always and will always deny States the right to establish less stringent laws. As an example, the Yap legislature passed a law banning possession of all firearms and ammunition in the State. It is a

more stringent law than that established by the FSM government which allows for certain types of firearms. The FSM Government has demonstrated through its prosecutions that it supports that more stringent law. No State, however, could establish a law that throws the door wide open for possession of firearms of types that are banned by the FSM law.

Both Pohnpei and FSM Governments are doing what they think is necessary to protect the people of their jurisdictions from the possibility that COVID-19 will find its way to our shores. The Pohnpei task force has decided that it needs to have more protections in place than the National Government has required.

"There is no need for alarmism and fear, which undermines trust and confidence, and our self-evident success: we remain COVID-19 free," the President wrote in his press release. "I encourage all citizens, and perhaps Pohnpei State Government as well, to not submit to fear and anxiety, and to instead find solace in communicating their thoughts and concerns. For Government officials, I recommend this occur through proper channels; for our public, I welcome your continued participation in your democracy, and encourage you to submit your views on the FSM National Government's response to the COVID-19."



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UReporters Ambassadors take swipe in response to COVID-19

Alvie B. Cabañez
Kaselehlie Press Volunteer Contributor

As the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic spreads around the world, UReport is stepping up and taking action the millennial way. UReport is a youth-led organization primarily composed of college students from the College of Micronesia (COM)-Palikir campus. It is a platform where the youth can voice out their opinion on social issues and be heard, at the tip of your finger.

Rather than resorting to fear or panic, UReporters Ambassadors are providing a more impactful response: informing themselves and helping others. "Right now, the team is using text blast to inform the FSM youth about their role in this pandemic. The text blast also collects information that can then be reported to government agencies and stakeholders for decision making," said Mr. Timothy James Mamangon, Manager, UReport.



"As Ambassadors, we take the lead in facilitating and hosting workshops to high school students in Pohnpei. We conduct recruitment drive, encourage the students to register and become a UReporter," said Gina Segal, Leader, UReporters Ambassadors. Prior to the pandemic, the team has been conducting workshops to different schools. Currently, there are about 2,000 youth are registered in the platform. Once registered, they will be a certified UReporter. They will get the chance to win freebies and prizes from partner agencies like FSM Telecommunications, on top of having their voices and opinions be heard.

"This is a good platform for the youth to be engaged. They can be heard through a shared survey via short-messaging-service (SMS)," said Mr. Cromwell Bacareza, Chief, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)-FSM. "Basically, we are funding the program aside from the water sanitation and hygiene. The youth can really contribute, be aware of the challenges in the country at the same time be part of the solution," he continued.



To join their efforts and do your part, follow the simple steps: text Join, send to 405. "You will receive a reply in a form of a survey questions from a list of topics," said Oscarson "Ozky" Ikalap, UReporter Ambassador. "The survey will help us find out what the youth are really concerned about within their community," he added.

In a time when the government and other agencies are doing their best, youths from all walks of life are raising their voice to be heard as well.



Chinese Government contributes \$20,000 to Pohnpei's COVID-19 response efforts

H.E. Huang Zheng, Chinese Ambassador to FSM, met with T.H. Reed B. Oliver to handover \$20,000 for Pohnpei's COVID response efforts

Peilapalap, April 28, 2020: Governor Reed B. Oliver received a donation of \$20,000 from the Government of the People's Republic of China. Chinese Ambassador, H.E. Huang Zheng, presented the check to Governor Oliver in the Governor's Cabinet room.

In his remarks, Ambassador Zheng spoke of 31 years of friendship with the people of Pohnpei and FSM, based on the bedrock of the One-China policy. Ambassador shared the Chinese Government's position of leaving no one left behind during the COVID19 crisis, and updated the Governor and staff on COVID19 cases in China, stating that there have been no new locally transmitted cases in China recently. Ambassador Zheng ended his remarks by saying that a friend in need is a friend indeed and that we can count on China as a friend, especially when we are in need.

Governor Oliver thanked Ambassador and the People's Republic of China for their generous contribution to the people of Pohnpei, saying "Words are not sufficient to thank you". He noted the many projects that have benefited the people of Pohnpei through Chinese development assistance including the much-anticipated

project of renovating the Pohnpei State Government Administration Building.

A separate donation of USD 100,000 was made from the Chinese Embassy to the FSM National Government from the China-Pacific Island Country Cooperation Fund against COVID-19. Pohnpei State will also be able to access a portion of these funds from the FSM National Government. The funds will be used to purchase supplies and equipment to help Pohnpei fight the spread of COVID19.

Also present from the Pohnpei State Government was Lieutenant Governor Feliciano M. Perman, Chief of Staff Mrs. Suzanne Lowe Gallen, Director of Treasury and Administration Ms. Christina Elinei who received the check from Governor to be deposited in the state's COVID19 account, Director of Health and Social Services Mr. Wincener David, Pohnpei State COVID-19 Task Force Chairperson Dr. Marcelle Gallen, External Assistance Coordinator Ms. Shirley Ligohr, and other staff from the Office of the Governor.

Accompanying H.E. Ambassador Huang Zheng from the PRC Embassy was Deputy Chief of Mission and Counselor Mr. Zhang Weitao and Second Secretary Wu Yibo.



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graphics cards, magnetic cards, microchip cards, PCMCIA cards, sound cards, video capture cards, video display cards, all for the recordal and transmission of data; modems; computer hardware and software for processing, storage, retrieval, transmission, display, input, output, compressing, decompressing, modifying, broadcasting and printout of data; computer input and output devices, namely, computer mice, trackballs, computer mouse touchpads, keyboards, scanners and computer cameras; computer workstations comprising processors, central processing units, computer monitors, computer peripherals and computer printers; computer data memories; storage devices, namely, computer servers, jump drives and thumb drives; security systems for computer hardware and software, namely, firewalls, network access server hardware for creating and maintaining firewalls, virtual private network (VPN) computer hardware and computer server operating software for creating and maintaining firewalls, software for ensuring the security of computer networks, software for access control and security, computer hardware and software for use in protecting computer networks from data theft or damage by unauthorized users; components for computers and printed circuits, namely, integrated circuit boards, printed circuit boards and electrical circuit boards; computer voice accelerator boards; computer voice, data, image and video accelerator boards; flash memory boards and flash memory cards; memory systems for computers primarily comprised of computer hard drives, back-up drives, DC and DVD drives, floppy disk drives, magnetic tape drives, optical disk drives, and memory cards; telecommunications equipment and computer networks, namely, processing and operating systems; headsets; computer mice; microphones; cables and adaptors; computer terminals and printers for use therewith; video display units, namely, computer monitors, electric luminescent display panels, flat panel display screens, LCD displays and led displays; telecommunications apparatus and instruments, namely, computer routers, hubs, servers and switches; cameras; computer hardware and software for the transmission and receipt of facsimiles; computer hardware and software for the development, maintenance, and use of local and wide area computer networks; computer hardware and software for the development, maintenance, and use of interactive audio-video computer conference systems; computer hardware and software for the receipt, display, and use of broadcast video, audio, and digital data signals; set-top boxes, electronic control devices for the interface and control of computers and global computer and telecommunications networks with television and cable broadcasts and equipment; computer peripheral memory apparatus and devices, namely computer peripherals; computer firmware, namely, computer operating systems software; fixed function computer servers; computer networking hardware; semiconductor devices; computer hardware and software for creating, facilitating, and managing remote access to and communication with local area networks (LANs), virtual private networks (VPN), wide area networks (WANs) and global computer networks; computer network interface cards (NIC), routers, and adaptors; computer software and hardware for use in providing multiple user access to a global computer information network for searching, retrieving, transferring, manipulating and disseminating a wide range of information; computer software tools for the facilitation of third party software applications; computer hardware and software for wireless network communications; downloadable electronic publications, namely, newsletters, books, magazines, journals, brochures and white papers in the area of electronics, semiconductors and integrated electronic apparatus and devices, computers, telecommunications, entertainment, telephony, and wired and wireless telecommunications; prerecorded magnetic data carriers, electronic floppy discs and optical discs featuring instructional materials relating to computers; computer hardware and software used to collect, measure, record, process, transmit, receive, reproduce, modify, compress, decompress, broadcast, merge and/or enhance data and information related to the welfare and well being of individual patients; structural parts and fittings for all the aforesaid goods; manuals sold as a unit with the aforesaid goods and electronic publications in the nature of manuals for the aforesaid goods downloadable from a global computer network in International Class 9; and

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IOM International Organization for Migration
OIM Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations
OIM Organización Internacional para las Migraciones

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Date: 01 May 2020

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is an intergovernmental organization established in 1951 and is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits both migrants and society.

IOM invites interested eligible Contractors to submit Quotations to supply construction materials to build 136 New Houses in outer islands in Chuuk, FSM.

Interested Bidders are invited to write to jjono@iom.int and mgurung@iom.int from 04 May 2020 to 15 May 2020 (from 09:00-12:00 and 13:00-17:00).

Bids shall be valid for a period of 90 days after submission of Bids and shall be sent electronically to above email addresses or hand delivered in sealed envelope to the IOM Pohnpei Office on 22 May 2020 before 14:00 Hours. Late bids shall be rejected. Subject on envelop: 'Chuuk Construction Materials 2020.'

IOM Pohnpei Office
Suite 2G, Pohn Umpomp Building
Pohn Umpomp Place, Nett Municipality

IOM reserves the right to accept or reject any bids, and to cancel the procurement process and reject all bids at any time prior to award of Contract, without obligation to inform the affected Bidder/s of the ground for IOM action.

Sincerely Yours

Nathan Glancy
Chief of Mission (OIC) IOM
Micronesia

U.S. Navy Seabees with NMCB-5 aide Pohnpei with COVID-19 preparation

Story by Builder 2nd Class Christian Carlson

U.S. Navy Seabees with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 5's Detail Pohnpei completed the first set of eight head and shower facilities to assist the local government in a proactive response to the COVID-19 outbreak April 21.

Additional head and showers are currently being built and staged outside of the isolation rooms at Misco Beach that NMCB-5's Seabees renovated in January. The isolation rooms were built to ensure any people under investigation of COVID-19 have a temporary living space while they are monitored for the virus.

Deputy Chief of Mission for the U.S. Embassy Heather Coble received the completed facilities and explained the impact they could have on Pohnpei. She also expressed her gratitude to the Seabees for helping the local government prepare for any potential positive COVID-19 cases.

"This pushes them so much further along than they were, to begin with," said Coble. "The Seabees gave them the comfort level and the support that they needed to make decisions which could be vital to survival here if COVID-19 pops positive. It's not only a good thing I think it's a very necessary thing and it could be a life-saving thing."

Both facilities are 5-by-5 foot lean-to style buildings that contain utilities and tiled floors to give potential occupants a clean and isolated area to shower and use the restroom, should they need to be placed in quarantine when traveling to Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia.

"[This project] is meant to be a proactive response since they don't have any cases here yet," said Construction Electrician 3rd Class Ignacio Munguia, NMCB-5's project crew leader. "As long as we're going to be here, we might as well keep doing things that are going to help someone."

NMCB-5 is deployed across the Indo-Pacific region conducting high-quality construction to support U.S. and partner



Photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Christian Carlson
Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 5

200416-N-WA745-1123 POHNPEI, Federated States of Micronesia (April 16, 2020) Builder 3rd Class Dillon Carr, with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 5's Detail Pohnpei, paints a quarantine head facility at Misco Beach, Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia. U.S. Navy Seabees with NMCB-5 are constructing head and shower facilities to assist the local government in a proactive response to the COVID-19 outbreak. NMCB-5 is deployed across the Indo-Pacific region conducting high-quality construction to support U.S. and partner nations to strengthen partnerships, deter aggression, and enable expeditionary logistics and naval power projection. (U.S. Navy photo by Builder 2nd Class Christian Carlson/Released)

nations to strengthen partnerships, deter aggression, and enable expeditionary logistics and naval power projection. The battalion stands ready to support humanitarian aid/disaster relief and major combat operations throughout the region.

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MAY 04-28, 2020

FSM XTC
 We Are You

FSM National Government & Blue Prosperity Coalition announce conservation program naming contest; all FSM citizens & residents eligible & encouraged to participate

FSM Information Services

PALIKIR, Pohnpei—On April 27th, 2020, His Excellency David W. Panuelo, President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), and the Blue Prosperity Coalition (BPC), which is inclusive of the Waitt Institute, National Geographic Pristine Seas, Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT), and Oceans 5, announced a contest for all citizens and residents of the FSM to provide an official name for the program to be implementing the Nation's stated objective, as expressed in the President's Inaugural Address in July 2019, to support the protection of at least thirty percent (30%) of the FSM's waters.

Citizens will recall that President Panuelo met with Mr. Ted Waitt, Founder and Chairman of the Waitt Institute, in July 2019 and again in September 2019 to formalize the Nation's partnership with BPC so as to begin the work of building the necessary legislation and programming to conserve and protect the FSM's marine environments. With the long-term goal of ensuring that the FSM's resources are abundant decades and centuries from now, the FSM-BPC partnership will work hand-in-hand with the National and State Governments to conduct scientific assessments, develop a Marine Spatial Plan and a Blue Economy Plan, and build upon existing conservation commitments to protect at least 30% of the FSM's waters.

"What we are asking you to do," President Panuelo said in a statement, "And I really do mean YOU—ALL citizens AND all residents of this Paradise in Our Backyard, is to help us create a name that truly embodies the goals of this program to help build a more prosperous, sustainable, and abundant marine habitat for the future of the FSM."

"At the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with the [BPC], I expressed that we are blessed with clean water and air, fertile soil and healthy reefs, majestic mountains and captivating sunrises and sunsets," President Panuelo continued. "If our loyalty is to our families and our communities, our duty is to protect our natural resources to ensure the collective well-being of our children's children."

All FSM citizens and residents are eligible and encouraged to participate in the FSM-BPC Program Naming Contest,

which will begin accepting entries on May 4th, 2020, until May 29th, 2020. Based on the name chosen, a logo will be designed by a Micronesian artist to represent the national unity of the States of Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, and Kosrae in conserving our environment and its marine resources.

On June 1st, 2020, the eight (8) person selection committee, inclusive of representatives from BPC, MCT, and line agencies of the FSM National Government, will begin the selection process, with the Contest winners announced during the week of June 8th, 2020.

The winner will receive a cash prize of two thousand dollars (\$2,000), kindly sponsored by BPC. Nineteen (19) runners-up will be selected for consolation prizes which will be two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) in gift certificates to local stores and businesses.

The Contest's submissions will be managed by Ms. Drinnette James from MCT. For further information on the official logistics, rules, and submission processes of the FSM-BPC Conservation

Program Naming Contest, please visit here: <https://forms.gle/Pbb9WTaEwAK2femh6> or visit the

MCT website at: <http://www.ourmicronesia.org/>

For further information on the FSM-BPC Partnership, please visit here: <https://tinyurl.com/FSMBPC>



Remote island students adapt high school robotics to COVID threat

Habele

Colonia, Yap— Early May finds Micronesia, a nation of many small and scattered islands in the Western Pacific, one of the lucky few countries with no confirmed cases of COVID-19.

An array of prevention measures, including quarantines and social distancing, have been implemented by national and state governments in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) to prevent introduction or spread of the virus.

One impact of social distancing was delay of "Robo Day," the annual statewide high school robotics championships held at the end of the school year in Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae States.

Student teams at twenty-two schools had spent the year designing, building, and fine-tuning robots in preparation for these public competitions, which showcase students' achievement in math and science. Established in 2012, Habele's Robo League is the most remote high school robotics program in the world and made possible through a partnership with the US Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs.

While the specifics in each Micronesian state -and often each school- are different, holding four large public gatherings with scores of students and hundreds of onlookers won't work for Robo Day 2020.

In partnership with school leaders and students, Habele has adjusted the planned Robo Day game course, creating a simpler, smaller, series of tasks that even a single student with a robot can complete for time.

Students can build a game board on any flat surface of about five square feet, such as a floor or a road. The modified game consists of three tasks, each of which are completed within that box. Another student, friend or family member can film the robot as it completes the tasks for time. The videos will be uploaded ahead of a deadline, allowing for students throughout the FSM to compete with their peers in their state and across Micronesia. "Habele's Robo League is about hands on learning and real-world problem solving," explained Neil Mellen, the former Peace Corps Volunteer who established Habele in 2006. "This revision of Robo Day 2020 to allow for social distancing is a great example of problem solving -not to

mention a glimpse of how transformative distance learning can be for Micronesian students."

Details of the social distancing Robo Day game board and the three challenges are online at habele.org/RoboDay2020 as well as the [facebook.com/HabeleFund](https://www.facebook.com/HabeleFund). Students have until midnight local time on Thursday, May 21st to post their final videos, one task at a time. They may post as many videos on Facebook as they like until the deadline. Students must tag the videos with "#HabeleRobo" and note in their post their name, their school, their state, which task they are completing, and how long it took.

Prizes -which arrived on-island before the pandemic- will be awarded in each of the four states for the students with the fastest time for each of three individual tasks, as well for the school with the fastest combined time for the three tasks in each state.

While COVID prevention specifics in each Micronesian state vary and may evolve, the redesigned game offers students who have worked all year in preparation for Robo Day the chance to test and showcase their skills. Local conditions will dictate the specifics of how schools utilize the revised game, but the online, student-driven format offers even those under the strictest distancing guidelines the chance to safely be a part of Robo Day 2020.

Opportunities at the Secretariat



About the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (Forum Secretariat) is the region's premier political and economic policy organisation, with a vision of helping to create a region of peace, harmony, security, social inclusion and prosperity, so that all Pacific people can lead free, healthy, and productive lives.

The international organisation works to achieve this vision by fostering cooperation between governments, collaboration with international agencies, and by representing the interests of its members - including directly engaging with community members in order to identify pressing needs of the region.

The work of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) is guided by the Framework for Pacific Regionalism (FPR) as: The expression of a common sense of identity and purpose, leading progressively to the sharing of institutions, resources, and markets, with the purpose of complimenting national efforts, overcoming common constraints, and embracing sustainable and inclusive development within Pacific countries and territories and for the Pacific region as a whole.

The FPR is underpinned by the Blue Pacific narrative, endorsed by Forum Leaders in Samoa in 2017, which calls for a long-term regional commitment to act as one "Blue Continent" as the means to achieve its development aspirations. The Leaders vision was that it would serve as the platform to reinforce and inspire the region in its shared stewardship of the Pacific Ocean, and to reaffirm the connections of Pacific peoples with their natural resources, environment, culture and livelihoods.

Context of the Forum Secretariat's Work

The Forum Secretariat has undergone an organisational restructure, with a view to achieving greater consistency across the organisation in the way workforce capability is developed, and capability gaps are identified and addressed. As such, the organisation has produced a highly professional workforce that is capable of creating and delivering high quality outcomes for the people of its member countries.

The policy work of the Secretariat is divided into three broad areas - Policy, Governance & Engagement, Programmes & Initiatives - depicting the different stages of the regional public policy cycle.

The Governance & Engagement team is tasked with building strong and meaningful relationships with PIF Members and external stakeholders, and to understand their interests, as a means to advocate for, and advance the collective values and priorities of the PIF as one Blue Pacific continent

The Policy team's focus is on developing quality high-level policy advice to member governments in consultation with members and CROP and international partners on a broad portfolio of issues, including social, economic and security related matters.

The Programmes & Initiatives team is focused on driving for outcomes of programmes and activities, including oversight of various development partner funded projects and programmes, that would contribute directly to the achievement of the prioritised KRAs from the Forum Leaders' decisions as well as those from other Forum ministerial meetings.

The Opportunities

Applications are invited from nationals of member countries to fill positions in the Operations Team. The positions this notice intends to fill are:

1. Team Leader Finance, Asset Management, Procurement & Travel

This position reports to the Director Operations and is responsible for the Financial Management of the Secretariat; Asset Management; Procurement and Travel; Internal Controls; Stakeholder Liaison; and Team Performance & Leadership. These will be achieved through the managing of the Finance services function under Corporate Services including investment and cash

flow management, maintenance of the Forum's General Ledger and Payroll systems, provision of periodic financial reports, liaison with external auditors and compilation and enhancement of applicable financial regulations and policies.

2. Team Leader – Legal, Risk and Compliance

This position will report to the Secretary General through the Director Operations with full responsibility for the legal, regulatory, risk and internal compliance functions of the Secretariat, demonstrating solid experience as a commercial lawyer with strong commercial acumen to lead our legal, risk and compliance team.

Responsibilities will include but are not limited to: Planning, designing, implementing and reviewing overall risk management process for the organization; Conducting risk assessment, which involves analyzing risks as well as identifying, describing and estimate the risks affecting the organization; and Preparing risk evaluation, which involves comparing estimated risks with criteria established by the organisation such as costs, legal requirements and environmental factors and evaluating the organization's 'risk appetite', i.e. the acceptable level of risk.

The starting salaries for the two Team Leader positions above will be in the range of SDR 36,640 to SDR 42,297 per annum. At the 1 March 2020 exchange rate this salary range was equivalent to FJD110,561 to FJD127,631.

3. Team Leader HR & Administration

This position reports to the Director Operations and is to manage the areas of Human Resources and Administration Support to ensure the organisation has a high performance Pacific Organisation Culture; a high quality professional workforce; best practice HR Policy, Processes & Logistics and a safe and healthy workforce and environment.

The objectives above will include operational responsibilities such as staff recruitment, onboarding, learning and development, performance management, remuneration & rewards, management of staff grievances & discipline processes, exit & repatriation. and the maintenance of all employee benefits and records. Team Leadership & Performance is a key responsibility of this position.

Dependent on qualifications and experience, the starting salary for this role will be in the range of SDR 30,412 to SDR 36,640 per annum. At the 1 March 2020 exchange rate this salary range was equivalent to FJD 91,768 to FJD 110,561.

The competitive remuneration and benefits packages for these appointments include medical and life insurance, housing and education for dependent children. For non-Fiji nationals, salaries may be free of income tax.

The Capabilities

Applicants are required to demonstrate their abilities in accordance with the Secretariat's Core Capabilities of: planning and prioritising, communicating with purpose and effect, leading and collaborating, applying critical thinking, developing & strengthening relationships and delivering value. To understand what these mean at the different levels of the organisation, applicants should view the Secretariat's Capability Framework on our website.

Supplementary Capabilities required for these positions include: building for the future, promoting effective workplace practices, managing and coordinating projects as well as using systems, tools and technology.

Additional Information

Interested applicants are encouraged to apply through our website: www.forumsec.org where an information package containing the position description and remuneration details for respective positions are also available therein.

Requirements for qualifications, experience and capabilities can be found in the information packs and candidates are encouraged to demonstrate how they satisfy these in their applications. Candidates must include in either their applications or curriculum vitae the full contact details of three referees.

To be eligible for these positions, applicants must be nationals of Forum member countries. The closing date for applications is **24 May 2020**.

President Panuelo & Vice President George receive Ambassador Cantor, \$7,700,000 via an act demonstrating that the United States CARES for the FSM-US enduring partnership

FSM Information Services

PALIKIR, Pohnpei—On April 30th, 2020, His Excellency David W. Panuelo, President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), and the Honorable Yosiwo P. George, Vice President of the FSM, received Her Excellency Carmen G. Cantor, Ambassador of the United States of America, in a courtesy call. While several topics were discussed, the primary purpose of the meeting was for Ambassador Cantor to formally submit to President Panuelo and Vice President George a check for seven million and seven hundred thousand dollars (\$7,700,000), which is the FSM's share of the U.S. Coronavirus Aid, Relief, & Economic Security (CARES) Act.

"Thank you for the demonstration of the Enduring Partnership between our two countries," President Panuelo said. "I keep saying that true colors really do come out in times of crisis...We appreciate the help very much, and you can rest assured that it will be put to very good use."

"We want to help you prepare, prevent, and respond to COVID-19," Ambassador Cantor said. "This is our way to continue strengthening our great relationship between the FSM and the United States."

It is the intention of the FSM National Government to ensure that this funding will be used explicitly and exclusively for the procurement of necessary and essential supplies and equipment for the Health Sector. In the FSM COVID-19 Task Force meeting later in the day, it was agreed that each of the Nation's States will receive their share of the funding through the same methods and procedures used to obtain resources from the relevant Sector Grants of the Compact of Free Association, as Amended.



President Panuelo meets with the nation's governors to discuss social distancing, economic stimulus, the COVID-19 response framework, & more

FSM Information Services

PALIKIR, Pohnpei—On April 22nd, 2020, His Excellency David W. Panuelo, President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), and the Honorable Yosiwo P. George, Vice President of the FSM, held a videoconference with the Honorable Henry S. Falan, Governor of the FSM State of Yap, the Honorable Johnson S. Elimo, Governor of the FSM State of Chuuk, the Honorable Carson K. Sigrah, Governor of the FSM State of Kosrae, and the Honorable Feliciano Perman, Lieutenant Governor of the FSM State of Pohnpei, to further unify the Nation's efforts to combat the COVID-19 Pandemic, and to, per the President's Declaration of Public Health Emergency and Congressional Resolution 21-138, discuss the terms of the social distancing requirements and other safety precautions that shall be mandated, within 30 days, for the entire Nation.

Regarding the desire to achieve uniform social distancing mandates, the Governors advised the President, per his request, that they will be submitting their current health advisories and precautions, as well as their intentions in the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in their jurisdiction. Once received, the National Government will consolidate these advisories and precautions, with the goal being that the end result is a set of social distancing mandates the Nation's leadership agree to abide by. "It's crucial that we continue to stand together, and also crucial that our citizens know that they're being treated fairly and equally whether they are in Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, or Kosrae," President Panuelo said.

Several topics discussed in the meeting were with regards to updating the Governors on the current state of the Economic Stimulus Package, the FSM Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program, the state of COVID-19 test kits and machines, and the state of incoming ventilators and other medical equipment and supplies.

President Panuelo noted that he would be signing the Economic Stimulus Package into law later in the afternoon and that the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program will provide unemployment benefits to individuals who have become unemployed as a direct result of the COVID-19 Pandemic. More information on these programs will be issued to the public in the coming days and weeks.

The President noted that, at this time, each of the FSM States has COVID-19 testing machines and that virtual training on the use of devices is ongoing; much of this training began on April 21st and April 22nd.

Regarding ventilators and other crucial medical equipment, it was noted that ventilators are forthcoming. It was also described that Pohnpei State has, or will receive, a total of eighteen (18) ventilators, with Chuuk State to receive seventeen (17), Yap State to receive fourteen (14), and Kosrae State to receive ten (10). These totals include all National and State Government purchases, including donations from the Nation's friends, allies, and development partners.

The National and State COVID-19 Task Forces, and other relevant State and National public servants, will continue to share information with each other with the goal of harmonizing the Nation's response to the threat posed by the COVID-19 Pandemic.



TRADE MARK CAUTIONARY NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that our client, Intel Corporation, 2200 Mission College Boulevard, Santa Clara, CA. 95052-8119 United States of America is the owner and sole proprietor of the following trademark:



Which is used in connection with:

Class 9: Electronic monitoring apparatus and software; monitors, sensors, and wearable computing devices to measure, monitor, record, and transmit physiological and biometric data such as heart rate, pulse, body temperature, perspiration, blood pressure, sleep patterns, time, distance, pace, calories burned, and other fitness measurements; computer and smartphone interfaces; monitoring and sensing hardware and software for wearable computing devices that measure, monitor, record and transmit physiological and biometric data such as heart rate, pulse, body temperature, perspiration, blood pressure, sleep patterns, time, distance, pace, calories burned, and other fitness measurements; wearable computing devices to measure biometric and physiological data; data processing devices for personal wear; wireless computing devices that transfer data to computers, personal digital assistants, smart phones, software applications and user interfaces through internet websites and other computer and electronic communication networks; smartphones; cell phones; personal digital assistances; computers; electronic tablets; computer and network servers; data processing equipment; data centers; wireless communication devices; local area network (LAN) and wide area network (WAN) hardware and operating software; software applications for computers, smartphones and tablets; semiconductors; integrated circuits; microprocessors; computer hardware; computer and telecommunications hardware and software; network interface cards (NICs); computer firmware; computer chipsets; computer motherboards; graphic chips; graphic boards; graphic cards; apparatus for recording, transmission, or reproduction of sound or images; devices, platforms and software used with or for cloud computing and the internet of things; electronic charging devices for accessories; computer anti-virus software and hardware

wireless electronic charging devices for accessories; computer anti-virus software and hardware

Class 10: Sensors, monitoring components and devices for gathering biometric and physiological data; pulse meters; heart and sleep monitors; blood pressure monitors; fitness measuring instruments and devices

Class 14: Jewelry, watches, bracelets, rings, precious metals, stones, and gemstones that incorporate functions for monitoring and reporting fitness and activity data, such as heart rate, pulse, temperature, perspiration, time, distance, pace, calories burned, and sleep patterns, as well as cumulative activity information; watches and bracelets that collect, store, transfer and communicate data to computers, personal digital assistants, smart phones, and software applications and interfaces through internet websites and computer and electronic communication networks

Class 25: Clothing; clothing, namely, shirts, sweaters, sweatshirts, tops, pants, shorts, swim suits, shoes, socks, pajamas, undergarments, onesies, helmets, hats, gloves, scarves and wearable electronics incorporating functions for monitoring and reporting fitness and activity data, such as heart rate, pulse, temperature, perspiration, time, distance, pace, calories burned, and sleep patterns, as well as cumulative activity information; wearable electronics; and

Further, take notice that Intel Corporation, 2200 Mission College Boulevard, Santa Clara, CA. 95052-8119 United States of America, attaches singular importance to its above referenced trademark and will immediately take the strongest legal actions to protect its intellectual property rights against any person(s) or business(es) found to be infringing those rights. Note that any infringing or unauthorized use of this mark while be met with civil and criminal action including injunctions, orders to seize, audits, full damages and costs.

Any inquiry regarding said trademark may be referred to the attorneys for Intel Corporation, 2200 Mission College Boulevard, Santa Clara, CA. 95052-8119 United States of America, as follows:

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FSM Economic Stimulus package becomes law

FSM Information Services

PALIKIR, Pohnpei—On April 22nd, 2020, His Excellency David W. Panuelo, President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), signed Public Law 21-105, which temporarily diverts funding from the Nation's fishing access fees and from revenue derived from major corporations to the Economic Stimulus Package (as opposed to the FSM Trust Fund). The fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) Economic Stimulus Package is the largest single stimulus of its type in the Nation's forty-one (41) years of Constitutional Government. This Public Law funds the bulk of the Economic Stimulus Package, which is presently focused on the tourism sector vis-à-vis the Tourism Sector Mitigation Fund. This release will focus on how the Economic Stimulus Package came about and how it presently operates, the Executive Branch's intentions for the Fourth Regular Session of the 21st FSM Congress in May, 2020 as it relates to the Economic Stimulus Package, and how businesses can apply for, and receive, financial assistance.

During the Fourth Special Session of the 21st FSM Congress in March 2020, the Congress, much to President Panuelo's applause, developed the Tourism Sector Mitigation Fund—including approximately one million dollars (\$1,000,000) of financial assistance to the tourism sector. The Public Law also established an oversight committee for the fund, Chaired by the Secretary of Finance, with Members including the Secretaries of the Department of Justice, the Department of Resources & Development, and the Department of Environment, Climate Change, & Emergency Management. This was developed at a time when COVID-19 was not yet identified as a global Pandemic and when the most affected sector of the Nation's economy was in the tourism industry, which has affected the FSM States of Yap and Chuuk disproportionately compared to the FSM States of Pohnpei and Kosrae, to include temporary closure of some of the Nation's most prestigious and recognized hotels.

As the nature of the threat posed by COVID-19 has continued to evolve and it became clearer to the President and the Congress that the economic impacts may be more involved and with a longer and deeper impact on the economy, the Nation began working on the Economic

Stimulus Package which would allow the FSM National Government to process wage subsidies, debt relief, and gross revenue tax and social security tax rebates for affected businesses. Most recently, this led to President Panuelo and the Fifth Special Session of the 21st FSM Congress working to divert funding originally intended for insertion into the FSM Trust Fund to fund the Economic Stimulus Package.

Initially the Economic Stimulus Package was intended to target assistance to both the private sector (including businesses proper as well as its owners and employees) as well as provide individual unemployment assistance. Through the Enduring Partnership between the FSM and the United States of America, the U.S. Department of Labor and the FSM Department of Finance & Administration (DOFA) are developing the FSM Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program, which is the program that will offer direct payments to individuals who have lost their job due to COVID-19. This separate but complementary program will be discussed in thorough detail in a forthcoming release.

The FSM Economic Stimulus Package targets businesses and their employees, and has three separate funding sources: the first funding source is the Tourism Sector Mitigation Fund, which includes approximately one million dollars (\$1,000,000) from the 21st FSM Congress and an additional five hundred thousand (\$500,000) from the Project Development Fund managed by the National Oceanic Marine Resource Authority. The second funding source is through Public Law 21- 105, which diverts approximately nine million dollars (\$9,000,000) previously earmarked for the FSM Trust Fund into the Economic Stimulus Package; and the third funding source is approximately three million dollars (\$3,000,000) of financial assistance sourced from the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Additionally, President Panuelo and Vice President George have submitted for Congress' review an additional two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in the Fiscal Year 2021 budget. Altogether, the total value of the FSM Economic Stimulus Package is approximately fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000~\$18,000,000) and represents the single largest economic stimulus in the Nation's nearly forty-one (41) years of Constitutional Government.

"The intention of the Economic Stimulus Package is to ensure the continued prosperity of the Nation and its citizens during these unprecedented times," President Panuelo said in a statement. "I give credit to Speaker Simina and the Members of the 21st FSM Congress for their collaborative spirit on this Package, and for their enthusiastic dedication towards serving the needs of our Nation's citizens. I also acknowledge the significant and timely delivery of financial assistance from the [ADB] to support the Nation's Economic Stimulus Package."

In an April 20th letter to the Honorable Wesley W. Simina, Speaker of the 21st FSM Congress, President Panuelo wrote: "I...offer, on behalf of Vice President and I, our sincerest gratitude for Congress' recent actions, including the extension of the Public Health Emergency Declaration as well as the passage of this [unprecedented and historic] Economic Stimulus Package."

"I thank you and Congress for your continued leadership and service to the people of our Nation," President Panuelo wrote.

It is the intention of President Panuelo and Vice President George to work with the 21st FSM Congress to ensure that the Economic Stimulus Package is able to benefit all other businesses outside of the tourism sector, such as the Nation's retail sector and fishing industry, which was

discussed during the Committee to Wait on the President after the opening session of the Fifth Special Session of the 21st FSM Congress. President Panuelo signaled that the FSM is monitoring developments in other sectors and will be coming to the Fourth Regular Session of Congress in May with a list of industries to expand assistance to.

Citizens presently employed by, or owning, businesses designated as part of the tourism sector through the Tourism Sector Mitigation Fund are currently able to apply for benefits through the FSM Economic Stimulus Package.

If you are currently employed by a business in the tourism sector, you don't need to do anything at this stage to gain benefits; if you are the OWNER of a business in the tourism sector, there are two items you will need to complete prior to receiving financial assistance.

The first item a tourism sector business (and, eventually, any business) will need to do, specifically with regards to receiving Wage Subsidy Assistance, is register at DOFA to receive a Registration Form. Once the form is completed and reviewed by DOFA, the National Government will subsidize 75% of your employees' wages, which is based on your business's tax returns. In other words, if a hypothetical employee earns four dollars in one hour, the Government will rebate you three of those four dollars to cover that employee's wages. The purpose of using tax returns as the basis of the application is to ensure that the Nation's Financial Management Regulations are followed and that the Government's commitments to transparency, responsibility, and accountability are upheld.

The second item a tourism sector business (and, eventually, any business) will need to do is file their taxes for the March quarter, which is due by April 30th, 2020. Timeliness in filing taxes is key as DOFA will automatically review your March 2020 quarterly revenues and juxtapose them with your March 2019 quarterly revenues; if the Government can establish that you have suffered financial losses, you will be automatically enrolled in the rebate service. This also applies to Social Security payment rebates; as these use the same return, there is NOT an additional step for businesses to take beyond submitting their tax returns for this particular item.

Business owners in the Nation are encouraged to obtain the Wage Subsidy Assistance application form by visiting DOFA website's page on the Economic Stimulus Package here: <http://www.dofa.gov.fm/support-to-businesses/>

"One of the key priorities for the Government," President Panuelo said in a statement, "is to keep businesses open and our people gainfully employed. The COVID-19 Pandemic is a threat to be taken seriously, but it can be overcome so long as we continue to work together with decision-making across the Nation reflecting the needs of our citizens, for all Micronesians whether they hail from Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, or Kosrae are one together. So long as we love one another in our hearts and demonstrate it through our actions, we'll see to it that, as the Book of John 1:5 says, 'the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has NOT overcome it.'"



College of Micronesia-FSM



www.comfsm.fm

COLLEGE OPENS DOORS FOR LIMITED ESSENTIAL SERVICES



Aerial view of COM-FSM National Campus, Palikir Pohnpei.

Since the state borders have been closed for nearly two months and there are currently no cases of COVID-19 under investigation, the College will open its doors for essential services. The offices may still be reached through email as well. These essential services include Admissions, Financial Aid, Business Office, President's Office, Dean of Academic Affairs

Office and the Learning Resource Center. Schedules are as follows:

President's Office	Monday – Wednesday	9:00am – 12 noon
Dean of Academic Affairs	Monday – Wednesday	9:00am – 12 noon
Learning Resource Center	Monday – Friday	9:00am – 4:00pm
VPIEQA	Working remotely and available for online	
VPAS	Mon., Wed., Friday	9:00 – 12 noon
Information Technology	Mon., Wed., Friday	8:00 – 12 noon

Department for Enrollment Management & Student Services (EMSS) has temporarily updated delivery of student support programs and services in its firm commitment to provide services to college community members and other stakeholders, while helping protect the health and safety of everyone during this unprecedented health crisis.

Hours or days of operation. **Beginning Monday, May 4, 2020, until May 29, 2020**, but may be subject to change depending on certain circumstances. EMSS offices will be open Monday through Friday; however, EMSS personnel will be working in shifts. For specific hours, please contact a campus near you or visit the college's website at www.comfsm.fm.

National Campus, (691) 320-2480 extensions 121 and 122
 Career & Technical Education Center (CTEC), (691) 320-1065
 Chuuk Campus, (691) 330-5689
 Kosrae Campus, (691) 370-3191
 Yap Campus, (691) 350-2296

College phone lines will be answered daily from 9:00am – 12 noon. After that time, please use the extension or email the office.

College Plans for Online Summer Session Starting June 1st

The college will be offering classes this summer through online delivery mode. Classes are scheduled to start June 1, 2020. Schedules will be posted on MyShark portal in the next few weeks.

Summer 2020 admissions for new and transfer students, including returning students

- **For incoming new first-time-college students.** Results of the recent 2020 spring COM-FSM Entrance Test (COMET) have been released to the principals (or designated points of contact) of private and public high schools in the FSM. However, you may contact our campus near you for your COMET results and placements.
- Beginning May 4, 2020, until May 22, 2020, the college will accept applications for summer 2020 admission. The college's admission requirements provide that students have: (a) graduated or will graduate from high school at the end of the current school year, or have a General Educational Development (GED) certificate; (b) a minimum high school grade point average of 2.0 as measured on a 4.0 scale, or a minimal score of 35 on each section and an average score of 45 for all five sections of the GED test; and (c) been accepted by the Committee on Recruitment, Admissions and Retention, or placed into the college's programs via the COMET.

Students are advised to contact our campus near them for further details on how they can file their applications for summer 2020 admissions or to schedule appointments with our admission specialists or counselors.

- **For incoming new transfer students.** Beginning May 4, 2020, until May 22, 2020, the college will accept applications for summer 2020 admission. Application for admission may be downloaded from the college's website (<http://www.comfsm.fm/oar/application-for-admission-Final.pdf>). The college should receive applications for summer 2020 admission on or before the afore-stated deadline along with the following other requirements: (a) transcripts of records from all colleges or universities previously attended, which are sent directly to the college's Office of Admissions, Records and Retention; (b) \$10.00 admission fee; and (c) health clearance or certificate.

New transfer students are advised to contact our campus near them for further details on how they can file their applications for summer 2020 admissions or to schedule appointments with our admission specialists or counselors.

- **For returning students.** Beginning May 4, 2020, until May 22, 2020, the college will accept applications for summer 2020 readmissions. Application for readmission may be downloaded from the college's website (http://www.comfsm.fm/oar/forms/application_for_readmission.pdf). The college should receive applications for summer 2020 readmission on or before the afore-stated deadline.

Registration for summer 2020

While registration for summer 2020 is currently scheduled for two days, May 28-29, 2020, the college will expand the registration to five days, May 26 to 29, 2020. The college has temporarily updated its registration process for the health and safety of college community members, and to further assist with its social distancing efforts, especially under this unprecedented health crisis.

- **For continuing students.** Continuing students may register for summer 2020 classes online. Window for summer 2020 online registration will be open, May 26, 2020, 8:00 AM (Pohnpei & Kosrae Time) or 7:00 AM (Chuuk & Yap Time), and will close, May 29, 2020, 6:00 PM (Pohnpei & Kosrae Time) or 5:00 PM (Chuuk & Yap Time). Continuing students are advised to contact their academic advisors for securing recommended courses for summer 2020, and approval to register online. Continuing students are also advised to contact our campus near them for any assistance or to schedule appointments with our admission specialists or counselors.
- For new first-time-in college, transfer and returning students. Students are also advised to contact our campus near them for any assistance relating to registration for summer 2020, or to schedule appointments with our admission specialists or counselors.

National Campus P.O. Box 159 Kolonias Pohnpei, FM 96941 Phone: (691)320-2480 Fax: (691)320-2479 E-Mail: national@comfsm.fm	Chuuk Campus P.O. Box 879 Chuuk, FM 96942 Phone: (691)330-2689 Fax: (691)330-2740 E-Mail: chuuk@comfsm.fm	FSM-FMI P.O. Box 1056 Kolonias Yap, FM 96943 Phone: (691)350-5244 Fax: (691)350-5245 E-Mail: fmi@comfsm.fm	Kosrae Campus P.O. Box 37 Tofol Kosrae, FM 96944 Phone: (691)370-3191 Fax: (691)370-3193 E-Mail: kosrae@comfsm.fm	Pohnpei Campus P.O. Box 614 Kolonias Pohnpei, FM 96941 Phone: (691)320-3795 Fax: (691)320-3799 E-Mail: pohnpei@comfsm.fm	Yap Campus P.O. Box 286 Kolonias Yap, FM 96943 Phone: (691)350-2296/5149 Fax: (691)350-5150 E-Mail: yap@comfsm.fm
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