

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF HAWAI'I

STATE OF HAWAI'I and ISMAIL
ELSHIKH,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DONALD J. TRUMP, in his official capacity
as President of the United States; U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; JOHN F. KELLY, in his official
capacity as Secretary of Homeland Security;
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE; REX
TILLERSON, in his official capacity as
Secretary of State; and the UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 1:17-cv-00050-
DKW-KJM

ORIGINAL DECLARATION OF
GEORGE SZIGETI

EXHIBIT B-2

DECLARATION OF GEORGE SZIGETI

I, GEORGE SZIGETI, do declare and would competently testify as follows.

1. I am the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA). I have served in this role since May 2015. From 2012 to 2015, I was the President and CEO of the Hawaii Lodging and Tourism Association, a private organization of Hawaii tourism industry leaders, which represents over 700 lodging properties and businesses across the State.
2. The HTA was established in 1998 as the lead state agency for Hawaii's tourism industry. The HTA is the state agency charged with the research, development, and fostering of tourism in Hawai'i. HTA's mission is to strategically manage Hawai'i tourism in a sustainable manner consistent with economic goals, cultural values, preservation of natural resources, community desires, and visitor industry needs.
3. The Tourism Special Fund was also established in 1998. It is a set percentage of the transient accommodations tax collections that is assessed on hotels, vacation rentals, and other accommodations. It is used by the HTA to market, develop, and support Hawaii's tourism economy.

4. Among its responsibilities, HTA is charged with:
 - a. setting tourism policy and direction from a statewide perspective;
 - b. developing and implementing the State's tourism marketing plan and efforts;
 - c. supporting programs and initiatives that enhance and showcase Hawaii's diverse peoples, places, and cultures of the islands, in order to deliver an incomparable visitor experience, including supporting Native Hawaiian culture and community, signature events and festivals, and preservation and proper use of Hawaii's striking natural resources;
 - d. managing programs and activities to sustain a healthy tourism industry for the State;
 - e. coordinating tourism-related research, planning, promotional and outreach activities with the public and private sectors; and
 - f. encouraging distribution of visitors across all of the Hawaiian Islands to balance capacity.
5. HTA maintains data regarding visitor arrivals and total visitor spending for various regions around the world.
6. The data maintained by our agency shows the following for the last five years:

| | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Visitor Expenditures (in Million \$) | \$14,364.8 | \$14,520.5 | \$14,973.3 | \$15,110.9 | \$15,745.7 |
| Total arrivals (by air and cruise ships) | | | | | |
| Total arrivals (by air and cruise ships) | 8,028,743 | 8,174,461 | 8,320,785 | 8,679,564 | 8,941,394 |
| Arrivals by Air | 7,867,143 | 8,003,474 | 8,196,342 | 8,563,018 | 8,832,598 |
| Arrivals by cruise ship | 161,600 | 170,987 | 124,443 | 116,546 | 108,796 |

The total visitor expenditures reported in this chart from 2012-2015 includes supplemental business expenditures. For 2016, the data is preliminary and the supplemental business expenditures have been estimated.

7. To translate, Hawaii's tourism industry brought well over \$14 billion into the State during 2012 to 2014. In 2015 and 2016, it brought in over \$15 billion. Tourism is the leading economic driver in the State.
8. As this data shows, airline travel is far and away the preferred method to travel to Hawai'i. In 2016, for example, a total of 8,941,394 people arrived in the islands. Only 108,796 of this total (1.2%) arrived by cruise ship.

9. Our data also shows that there is a steady flow of visitors from the Middle East and Africa. The data maintained by our agency shows the following for the last five years:

| Visitor Arrivals | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Middle East | 3,565 | 3,182 | 5,784 | 6,804 | 5,451 |
| Africa | 1,345 | 1,111 | 1,877 | 2,090 | 1,725 |

This data reflects visitor arrivals, in surveys taken for air arrivals. The 2016 data is preliminary.

10. As our data is maintained, the region Middle East includes Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Yemen.

11. As our data is maintained, the region Africa includes Libya, Somalia, and Sudan.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on 2 of February, 2017, in Honolulu, Hawaii.


George Szigeti