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STATEMENT REGARDING COSTS OF FEDERAL ENGAGEMENT IN SAN FRANCISCO

Office of the Governor Communications Director John Ryan issued the following statement this afternoon regarding the cost of participating in high level talks with officials from across the federal government about the impact of the military buildup:

“The total cost is still being compiled because the delegation includes multiple line and autonomous agencies with different accounting processes. We will provide that number when the accounting is complete.

This is a serious investment in what Guam is trying to achieve.

We were asked to make Guam’s case for federal support for billions of dollars in critical needs—including affordable housing, underground power, a new hospital, roads, bridges and other infrastructure.

It is a rare opportunity to make that case directly to an extraordinary concentration of federal agencies and officials. The individual working sessions required local agency leaders and technical experts responsible for those projects to be there.

The real measure is the result for Guam.

We already know how Washington works: if you are not in the room when these decisions are being shaped, you cannot expect Guam’s interests to carry the day.

Passing up an opportunity of this magnitude would have been a far greater failure.”

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