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Family members, relatives pay tribute to 13 fishermen



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HPO archaeologist resigns

25 Sep 2015

By Alexie Villegas Zotomayor - avz@mvariety.com - Variety News Staff



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THE newly hired archaeologist of the Historic Preservation Office has called it quits.

“Yes, I did resign,” said Jennings Bunn, but he declined to elaborate.

Variety was not able to get a comment from the Historic Preservation Office on Thursday.

The HPO is again without an expert who can guide it through this crucial period as the CNMI deals with the military buildup.

The Historic Preservation Review board earlier expressed its concern over the office’s lack of experts.

Bunn, who filled the position vacated by Eric Lash, is a former regional cultural resources manager for the U.S. Naval Forces Marianas.

He has over 35 years of experience as an archaeologist with prehistory as his expertise.

He has also received several awards for his cultural resources management work in the region.

The CNMI needs archaeologists as it assesses the impact of the proposed construction of military training facilities on Pagan and Tinian as well as the U.S. Air Force’s divert airfield proposal.



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potatoe · 5 hours ago

He did indeed seem like a nice guy and I'm a little surprised to see him go so quickly. This points to a very serious problem that needs resolution very quickly. HPO clearance is key to the tens of millions in federal funds coming into the CNMI, in addition to the cultural preservation that so many have hit upon. It seems very worth it to me to pay someone a competitive salary and treat them with professional respect and dignity. If that's not happening then there needs to be some people removed from the HPO/DCCA management positions, maybe all the way to the top.

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



CNMI SAIPAN · 6 hours ago

they need to change the HPO administrator; that's why.

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



lelaka · 8 hours ago

nice guy and experienced, sorry to see him go

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



johnfraser1 · 11 hours ago

I don't know why the last two directors have resigned but my own experience at HPO has been disappointing.

Certain staff have frequently not been there to help me. When I visited the office and left my phone number with a staff person who said they will get back to me with an answer, I received no phone call.

Most recently, I called to ask if one of HPO's own publications was available for purchase. The staff member I talked to said I should come in and check for myself. I asked if he could just go over to the shelves and take a look and he once again told me to come in and look for myself.

I imagine that for a new director, HPO is a very depressing place to work with lackadaisical, unhelpful and unmotivated staff.

If it were up to me, I would clean house and start with brand new staff and leadership, from top to bottom.

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



Magahaga · 11 hours ago

I can understand why Jennings resigned from HPO. There is GROSS CORRUPTION! at HPO. Mr. Bunn will not allow Mertie Towai Kani, HPO director and DCCA Secretary Laura Ogumoro to ruin his 35 YEARS of professional experience and reputation. Can't the Attorney General and the Public Auditor see that our office where we entrust the protection and preservation of our history-our culture, our tradition and most especially our CHAMORRO HERITAGE OF THE INDIGENOUS OF THE MARIANA ISLANDS

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HERITAGE AS THE INDIGENOUS OF THE MARIANA ISLANDS.

The Governor should ask for the RESIGNATIONS of the HPO Director, HPO Advisory Board members; and the Secretary of DCCA because Laura also participated to approve the desecration of our ancient Chamorro ancestors' burial site at Anaguan Garapan. Shame on all of you to continue allow these outsiders-Chinese Investors & American Archaeologist, to disrespect our people here on our very soil.

"OUR HERITAGE IS NOT FOR SALE!"

Peace!

5 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



chimayoo5 · Magahaga · 9 hours ago

You guys are your own worst enemies!!

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



loanes · Magahaga · 11 hours ago

Definitely merits serious response given that it's about the spirit of our ancestor endowed with blessings from the past. Are we supposed to be trash of investors who have no inherent relationship with our ancestral lands?

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



captain · 12 hours ago

Yep, as predicted when he took this position. Too bad that no one stays very long at HPO. Since this office has Fed Funding, best have the Feds look into this operation. I know from the past over the years this office is a bad joke on the whole. Every time we have had to deal with them they have had to send someone from Guam due to the inability to keep any qualified person(s). Off island they are not even close to a bad joke.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



Blade Runner · 13 hours ago

What's the matter? Don't like to see the material you collected for sale on eBay?

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



lelaka · Blade Runner · 8 hours ago

I hope that's not true

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