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RECEIVED
 OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY
 PROCUREMENT APPEALS
 DATE: 10/31/17
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 FILE NO OPA-PA: 17-009

Attorneys for the Government of Guam

**IN THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY
 PROCUREMENT APPEAL**

IN THE APPEAL OF:) DOCKET NO. OPA-PA-17-009
)
)
CORE TECH INTERNATIONAL CORP.,) **DECLARATION**
)
 Appellant.)
)
)

JOAQUIN BLAZ makes this declaration under penalty of perjury under the laws of Guam and states:

1. I am employed by Guam Department of Public Works (“DPW”), Division of Highways, as its Acting Highway Administrator.

2. I am also a member of the Guam Transportation Group (“GTG”) that was formed in early 2008 to provide policy direction and overall guidance related to the vision, goals and objectives of Guam’s 2030 Guam Transportation Plan (“GTP”). The GTP defines Guam’s long-term transportation improvement strategy, including the Route 1/ 8 Intersection Improvements and Agana Bridges Replacement Project No. GU-DAR-T101(001) (“Route 1/8 Project”).

3. The Route 1/8 Project is with the U.S. Department of Transportation through the Federal Highway Administration. Its management is independent of that responsible for the Simon Sanchez High School Project No. 730-5-1057-L-YIG (“SSHS Project”). The SSHS

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Project, as I understand, is governed by representatives of the Guam Department of Education, Department of Land Management, Guam Economic Development Authority, Guam Environmental Protection Agency and DPW, under the Division of Capital Improvements Projects (CIP).

4. I am not involved in the daily operations of CIP nor am I aware of any of their procurement projects.

5. I am not aware of any animosity between DPW and Core Tech Internal Corp. ("Core Tech"). The numerous time extensions granted Core Tech on the Route 1/8 Project contradict any such belief.

6. Substantial Completion on the Route 1/8 Project was achieved on August 25, 2016.

7. Notwithstanding numerous promises to complete the Route 1/8 Project, as of August 23, 2017, Core Tech failed to complete outstanding items, including but not limited to the need to correct sidewalks that Core Tech itself agree failed to comply with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), the parties Contract and the Plans and Specifications.

8. The timing of DPW August 23, 2017 Notice of Termination/Default was based on the advice of counsel who informed DPW that the Route 1/8 Project's Surety's Bond might not be enforceable if DPW failed to terminate prior to the one year anniversary of Substantial Completion (i.e., August 25, 2016). DPW's counsel provided this advice as early as June, 2017.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the aforementioned is true.

Submitted this 30th day of October, 2017.

By:



JOAQUIN BLAZ
Acting Highways Administrator
Department of Public Works