# GOV. MSG. NO. 731

#### CAREER SUMMARY

Over years of progressive employment with Hawai'i non-profit agencies specializing in the areas of human services, construction and housing.

#### **PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

2002-Present Rene Berthiaume, Professional Services Provide professional services on a contractual consulting basis in the areas of human services, housing, special needs housing and construction. Projects have included project development and management for a 7-home affordable housing subdivision in Kihei, Maui for a non-profit developer and the establishing of Safe Houses for juvenile offenders and Elderly Care Consultation for the State of Hawaii Department of Human Services

### 1983-June 30, 2014 Network Enterprises, Inc., Honolulu, Hawai`i

1983–2001 *Vice President & General Manager:* Oversaw and managed all daily operations of Network's Research & Development Division, including its housing component. Coordinated research, development and feasibility studies of new programs, including conceptual, funding developments and implementation. Diverse projects included planning, design, and construction of new housing, and renovation of existing housing and government facilities. Coordinated aspects of projects with architects, engineers, lawyers, contractors and government agencies. Supervised internal human services professionals and sub-contractors on job sites while ensuring compliance with city, county, state and federal codes and regulations. Developed Network's Correctional Industries joint venture program from conceptual stage through implementation. Also functioned as agency's legislative and government liaison (lobbyist).

*Vice President & Housing Development Specialist:* Responsible for the generation, through planning, marketing and other efforts, of transitional and permanent housing and employment opportunities for homeless veterans as well as other special needs housing projects.

## SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

- Initiated and developed the Hawaii State Use segment of "Partners in Employment Program" (PEP).
- Created and implemented a dedicated program that provides employment and training to disabled veterans on construction projects for the Veterans' Industries/Network Enterprises, Inc., in conjunction with the Department of Veterans' Affairs.
- Initiated and developed TransPacific Housing Development Corporation (TRANSPAC) at Network Enterprises. This free-standing 501.C(3) entity sponsors, develops and builds special-needs housing that, during the construction phase, provides persons with disabilities with training and employment opportunities.
- Evolved Maintenance/Construction Division from a \$32,000 grant to licensing as General Contractor with a multi-million-dollar budget.

## Rene' Berthiaume PROFESSIONAL HISTORY, continued

Developed the project with the County of Maui, Department of Housing and Human Concerns, to design and build a 22-home affordable housing subdivision. "Makawao Highlands," completed in 1998, which has won National awards and was accomplished with a workforce comprised of approximately 60% persons with disabilities, believed to be a first in the United States.

# **Opportunities for the Retarded, Inc. (Helemano Plantation)**

*Operations Manager/H.U.D. 202 Coordinator:* As founding member, organized and implemented agency from its inception. Planned and directed 13-acre diversified agricultural training farm and construction of all structures and systems.

- Provided major support with asset acquisitions, including 5 acres of public land and \$3.5 million in facilities and housing in Central Oahu.
- Handled all aspects of marketing and public relations, including determination of wholesale/retail outlets; evaluation of services and products; press, government, and community relations; and advertising.
- Supervised, monitored, and evaluated client development of agricultural skills. Developed vocational projects for 80 clients; identified opportunities for clients ready to adapt to outside employment.
- Directed all farm operations, including hiring, training, and supervision of crew; pesticide & fertilization programs; production quotas.

# Hawai`i Association for Retarded Citizens (Ruger Center)

*Program Coordinator/H.U.D. 202 Coordinator/Team Leader:* Was instrumental in all phases of agency's development, including establishment of satellite programs throughout Oahu serving 300 clients with a staff of 48. Functioned as teacher, intake coordinator, housing coordinator, community resources coordinator, fundraiser, and staff training coordinator. Acted as lobbyist at all levels of government legislation. Testimonies included appropriations for grant-in-aid proposals, land acquisition, zoning changes, contract and lease negotiations in both public and private sectors.

## EDUCATION

*University of San Francisco -*Rehabilitation Administration Management

University of Hawai`i -Special Education/Physical Education Farrington High School, Honolulu, Hawai`i

# MILITARY

United States Marine Corps. Five years active duty as a Forward Air Controller (FAC); served with 1st Air & Naval Gunfire Liaison Co. (ANGLCO) during the Vietnam War.

Honorable Discharge.

Life Member of V.F.W. Post #10583; Post Commander, Trustee, Service Officer.

Member ANGLICO Association.

### 1989 – present Master of Ceremonies, Vietnam Veterans Memorial Day, Punchbowl Cemetery

## **MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS**

State Rehabilitation Council, Chair

Organizer and founder of National Coalition of State Rehabilitation Councils

Member of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Public Housing Authority (Member of the Homeless Task Force and Mixed-Use Development Task)

Affordable Housing and Homeless Alliance

Alliance of Health and Human Services

American Rehabilitation Association (ARA)

Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC)

Governor's Affordable Housing Task Force, Committee Member

Empower North Shore (ENSO), Board Member

Commission of Accreditation Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF)

National Center on Disabilities at the University of Hawaii, Advisory Board Member

National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, Member

National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, Government Relations Committee Member

Organizer & founding member of the Hawaii Coalition for Affordable Housing, now known as Housing Hawaii. Currently serving as the Vice President of the Board of Directors. National Industries for the Severely Handicapped (NISH) National Industries for the Severely Handicapped (NISH)

Hawaii Continuum of Care Committee, Past Vice Chair

Hawaii Employers Council

International Association of Psychosocial Rehabilitation (IAPRS)

National Rehabilitation Association

Rehabilitation Facilities of Hawaii (RFH)

State of Hawaii, Welfare Reform Task Force

Better Business Bureau

Barbers Point Base Closure Task Force

Planner for the National Affordable Housing Conference, Hawaii 2005

Life Member of V.F.W. Post #10583; Post Commander, Trustee, Service Officer

Member ANGLICO Association, USMC