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IAFE: Convention 2018 In San Antonio, TX

People

Marla Calico <marlac@fairsandexpos.com>

Sep 18 at 7:56 AM

To dave@santacruzcountyfair.com

Dear David,

Many of you have contacted the IAFE office regarding restricted travel to our 2018 convention site, San Antonio, Texas. Our staff has been diligently working to assist you with your 2018 convention plans.

The IAFE is aware of the legislation and the resulting enforcement by the Attorney General for California. When we were made aware of this last year, we immediately reached out to then Western Fairs Association Director, Stephen Chambers, and then followed his lead in the matter. Upon the urging of a California member, the IAFE sent communication to Secretary Ross in November 2017, identifying the vast, unique, and essential educational programming (Dept. of Homeland Security, Consumer Protection Program and other life safety programming, etc.) available only at the annual IAFE Convention & Trade Show. We did not receive any response from Secretary Ross. In addition, we have on-going communication with new WFA Executive Director, Sarah Cummings, to assist her in her efforts.

We had the opportunity to discuss the travel ban with John Quiroz, CDFA Branch Chief, earlier this month and he informed us his office is not prepared to grant or assist fairs in their travel requests. He suggest each fair work through their boards to consider travel approval and that the fair boards should understand all of the potential risks involved in authorizing travel to the Convention. You should reach out directly to him should you need more detail on this.

Please know that when San Antonio was selected as our new Convention location, this California legislation was nonexistent. The site selection process begins YEARS prior to the event, thus, by the time the Convention occurs, a location that is not currently banned could be added to the list.

We know this is frustrating for you as it is for us -- please let us know what tools you may need to make your formal travel request to your board. We will make every effort to assist.

Sincerely,

Marla J. Calico, CFE

President & CEO

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