

COMMUNITY

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YOUR IMMIGRATION SOLUTION



ATTY. ROBERT REEVES & NANCY MILLER

Change is coming!

sented by Major Cities Chiefs Association, Montgomery County Police Chief J. Thomas Manger. He was convincing and unequivocal in arguing for the law enforcement and security imperatives for comprehensive reform. Former Commissioner of INS Doris Meissner elaborated further on the economic and security implications of our broken system and offered up a vision for solving those problems.

Representing the employer position on reform was President and CEO of the Greater Houston Partnership Jeff Moseley. He was followed by Eliseo

added to the next budget year for border and transportation security in order to fulfill a promise to the Mexican government to battle southbound flow of illegal weapons. This move is widely viewed as setting the stage for immigration reform by first addressing enforcement. The spending will enable the administration to hire more agents and enhance security at air and seaports. President Obama is expected to request additional funds to expand screening for illegal immigrants in jail and to improve a Web-based program for verifying workers' employment eligibility.

This follows on the heels of changes already made in immigration work-site enforcement. The current administration has shifted the emphasis from illegal workers to employers who break the law by hiring them. In devoting more money to security and enforcement, the president is thought to be creating necessary political space in order to revamp the immigration system.

More hearings are scheduled in Congress for next week. Stay tuned!

Atty. Reeves has represented clients in numerous landmark immigration cases that have set new policies regarding INS action and immigrants' rights. His offices are located in Pasadena, San Francisco, Las Vegas and Makati City.
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The analysis and suggestions offered in this column do not create a lawyer-client relationship and are not a substitute for the personalized representation that is essential to every case.

(Advertising Supplement)

THE opening salvo has sounded in Congress! The Senate Immigration Subcommittee, with Senator Schumer at the head, held a hearing last week. This was Senator's first event as the head of the Subcommittee and it was not a disappointment.

Between the speakers, they covered all the bases in making the case for why Congress can and must pursue immigration reform now. It was a strong statement of commitment and was extremely encouraging. Alan Greenspan began the hearing by making the economic case for immigration reform. This was the right place to begin. Everyone is concerned about the economy. Members of Congress will want their constituents to know that immigration reform will have a beneficial effect on economic recovery. Mr. Greenspan's testimony will be something senators can point to when they discuss this issue in their home states.

After Mr. Greenspan spoke, Pastor Hunter made a strong moral argument explaining why reform is the right thing to do. Wade Henderson, the executive director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, spoke eloquently on the civil and human rights implications of our broken immigration system.

Law enforcement was repre-

“President Obama is expected to request additional funds to expand screening for illegal immigrants in jail and to improve a Web-based program for verifying workers' employment eligibility.”

Medina of the Service Employees International Union. Both supported reform. Mr. Medina was particularly compelling in discussing the importance of reform for all workers.

No hearing on immigration reform would be complete without a representative from FAIR. Kris Kobach, who is Of Counsel to FAIR's legal arm, the Immigration Reform Law Institute, argued for more border enforcement and no amnesties. His testimony did not go unchallenged. Senator Schumer differentiated the previously proposed earned legalization from an amnesty.

This week, the White House announced that it will ask Congress for \$27 billion to be

The Voice of FilAmerica

Political empowerment is still a treasure that eludes us as a community here in America. While we are the second largest Asian American community in the United States, we have yet to harvest the power that comes from our numbers. The Voice of FilAmerica features elected and appointed officials—regardless of political affiliation—in the different US states who are of Filipino ancestry. As your Filipino American community newspaper, the Asian Journal recognizes the fact that we all have a responsibility towards bringing political empowerment to fruition, especially for our future generations. It is our hope to have our voices heard all over America.

James V. Espaldon Fil-Am Senator of Guam

by CYNTHIA DE CASTRO
AJPress

JAMES V. Espaldon was born June 21, 1956 to Dr. Leticia Virata Espaldon and the late honorable Dr. Ernesto Espaldon, former Senator in the 13th, 14th, 15th, 19th, 20th, 21st Guam Legislatures. He is married to the former Gilda Respicio Eay and together they have three children, Jonte, Christian James and Victoria. James is a 1975 graduate of Father Duenas Memorial School and earned his Bachelors of Science degree in Business Administration from Menlo College in California.

Jim, as he is commonly known by friends and associates, has worked in a number of career fields prior to running for office. He toiled the fields as an onion farmer in Maui and later joined retail management with ABC Stores in Hawaii. James returned to Guam and dabbled in real estate brokering before following in the footsteps of his parents, somewhat, at the Doctor's Clinic, where he served as Director for Facilities Services.

Seeking to expand his ho-

rizons, James left to Ada, Ohio where he pursued the study of law. He received his Juris Doctorate from Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law in 2003. Jim worked as a law clerk in the Superior Court of Guam under Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena, III. He was sworn in to the Guam Bar in September 2006.

Elected to the 29th Guam Legislature in November 2006, Senator James V. Espaldon brings a wealth of knowledge and life experiences to the Legislature. Jim serves as the Chairman of the Committee on Judiciary, Natural Resources, Infrastructure, and Cultural Affairs. Senator Espaldon also serves as Legislative Parlia-



mentarian and is the Legislature's representative to the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures. ■



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