### BEFORE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE CORPORATION RELATIVE TO THE USE OF PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE CORPORATION LAPSED FUNDS TO PAY FOR BOARD CERTIFICATION FEES AND ANNUAL DUES OF THE CRIMINAL DEFENSE INVESTIGATION ACADEMY TRAINING COUNCIL

#### **RESOLUTION NO. PDSC 17-15**

WHEREAS, the PDSC Board of Trustees adopted Resolution Number 99-07 requiring Board approval for the budgeting of and/or spending authorization(s) for lapsed funds; and

WHEREAS, Investigator II, Sea C. Alvarez had attended and successfully completed the Criminal Defense Investigation Academy in June of 2014 as authorized by the Board through Resolution No. PDSC 09-14 (Amended); and

WHEREAS, a Certification Fee of \$175.00 and the Annual Dues of \$50 are required to complete all certification criteria by the Criminal Defense Investigation Academy but this cost was not included in the original Resolution; now therefore be it

RESOLVED,

The Board of Trustees of the Public Defender Service Corporation, in its meeting of June 23, 2015 hereby approves the use of Public Defender Service Corporation's lapsed funds for the amount of \$225.00 to complete all certification requirements for Investigator II, Sea C. Alvarez.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED this 23rd day of June 2015.

CE ROBERT J. TORRES, JR.

ATTEST:

WILFRED G. AFLAGUE

Secretary



DIRECTOR Eric D. Miller

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR Wilfred G. Aflague

#### STAFF ATTORNEYS

Richard S. DirkxIn JTerrance A. LongPortLoretta Gutierrez-LongattaPablo M. AglubatCrinRaymond B. IlaganorgaJocelyn M. RodenmeePeter J. SablanTheMaria G. FitzpatricktwoAli N. NusbaumCerrSuresh SampathFrian E. KegerrelsMikaela S. HendersoninversorWilliam B. Joneshere

J. Robert Mortland, III

PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE CORPORATION (Kotperasion Setbision Defensot Pupbleku) GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

> 779 Route 4 Sinajåña, Guam 96910 Tel: (671) 475-3100 ◆Fax: (671) 477-5844

Eric Miller, Executive Director Wilfred Aflague, Administrative Director

Via: Robbie T. Call, Chief Investigator

Re: CDITC Board Certification and Member Fees

#### Hafa Adai!

To:

In June of 2014 I completed the 40 hour Criminal Defense Investigation Academy in Port St. Lucie, Florida. Completion of the Academy is one of five requirements for attaining the designation of Board Certified Criminal Defense Investigator by the Criminal Defense Investigation Council (CDITC), a nationally recognized organization. I have since been able to obtain and execute documents to be able to meet the other four requirements. (Copies of my application packet attached herein)

The purpose of this memo is to request payment to CDITC, via hand delivery by the two Investigators scheduled to attend the Academy this month, for the Board Certification Fee and the Annual dues to become a member of the CDITC. The fee for Board Certification is \$175, and the Annual Dues are \$50.

This professional certification, uniquely available only to defense and private investigators, will give further credibility and credence to my work as an Investigator here at PDSC. Membership would allow myself and other PDSC Investigators to network with other Board Certified Investigators, and possibly provide other training opportunities specific to defense work, which will also be necessary in the coming years for continued certification.

Investigators Ricardo Taimaanao and Jose Marquez are scheduled to depart for Florida on Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup> to attend the Academy. My intention is to have them hand deliver my application. As such, a response prior to **Thursday**, **June 11<sup>th</sup>** would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your attention and consideration,

Séa C. Alvarez Investigator II

## Membership Application

Board Certification Application Fee: \$175.00 Annual Dues: \$50.00 – Associate Member \$50.00 – Board Certified Member Member Type: () Associate, () Board Certified

Submit Check or Money Order to; CDITC 416 SE Balboa Ave, Suite 2 Stuart, Florida 34994 - 1-800-465-5233

Applicant Name: SEA C. ALVAREZ	Date of Birth: 2 / 21 / 75
Address:P.0. BOX 760	Telephone:(671)777-7322
HAGATNA, GUAM 96932	Facsimile:(671)477–5844
·	seaacruz@gmail.com email:
Employer:PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES CORP.	Position: INVESTIGATOR II
	Title:
	Website:guampdsc.net
License Held:	License #:
Have you been qualified as an expert by the court?	Discipline:
Certifications/Special Qualifications:	LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY
Education: BACHELOR OF CRIMINAL JUSTI	CE, SEATTLE UNIVERSITY
Experience/Criminal Defense: (Attach a profile or cur 7 years	riculum vitae if necessary)
Signature of Applicant: I certify that the above information is true and correct and that I w that my membership can be terminated upon a finding of fact by t actions inconsistent with the philosophy of the Council. A format basis for an immediate dismissal.	he Advisory Board regarding any and all unethical behavior or

### **BOARD CERTIFIED CRIMINAL DEFENSE INVESTIGATOR PROGRAM**

### **CODE OF ETHICS AFFIDAVIT**

STATE OF

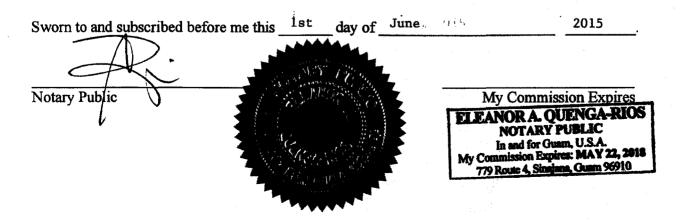
SINAJANA

GUAM

COUNTY OF

Before me this day personally appeared SEA C. ALVAREZ , who, being duly sworn, deposes and says that as a member of the Criminal Defense Investigation Training Council and Board Certified Criminal Defense Investigator, I will adhere to the highest ethical standards. I will conduct criminal defense investigation assignments as an impartial, objective, and ethical advocate of the truth. I will support fellow criminal defense investigators in the pursuit of excellence and meet all of the rigorous academic and professional challenges of the Board Certified Criminal Defense Investigator Program.

Signature Cape C. KIVACEE



## BOARD CERTIFIED CRIMINAL DEFENSE INVESTIGATOR PROGRAM

#### **AFFIDAVIT OF EXPERIENCE**

STATE OF GUAM

COUNTY OF SINAJANA

Before me this day personally appeared **ROBBIE T. CALL**, who, being duly sworn, deposes and says that I know both personally and professionally the criminal defense investigator identified as **SEA C. ALVAREZ**. He/She is currently employed by **PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE CORP.GUAM** and does actively engage in the discipline of criminal defense investigation. To my knowledge, **SEA C. ALVAREZ** has been active as a criminal defense investigator for approximately **SIX** years. I have personal knowledge of **SEA C. ALVAREZ** successfully conducting the investigation of **TWENTY-FIVE** criminal defense assignments. The assignments were comprehensive in nature and not merely single task orientated. I further attest that **SEA C. ALVAREZ** has maintained the highest ethical and professional standards.

Signature of Person Making Affidavit

day of Cotober 2014. Sworn to and subseribed before me this Av Commission Expires ELEANOR A. OUENGA-RIOS NOTARY PIL In and for Guam 11 ission Expires: M

## BOARD CERTIFIED CRIMINAL DEFENSE INVESTIGATOR PROGRAM

#### **AFFIDAVIT OF EXPERIENCE**

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STATE OF GUAM

COUNTY OF

Before me this day personally appeared Loretta Gutierrez-Long, who, being duly sworn, deposes and says that I know both personally and professionally the criminal defense investigator identified as <u>SEA CRUZ ALVAREZ</u>. He/She is currently employed by <u>Public Defender Service Corp.</u> and does actively engage in the discipline of criminal defense investigation. To my knowledge, <u>Sea Cruz Alvarez</u> has been active as a criminal defense investigator for approximately <u>six (6)</u> years. I have personal knowledge of <u>Sea Cruz Alvarez</u> successfully conducting the investigation of <u>four (4)</u> criminal defense assignments. The assignments were comprehensive in nature and not merely single task orientated. I further attest that Sea Cruz Alvarez has maintained the highest ethical and professional

Sea Cruz Alvarez has maintained the highest ethical and professional standards.

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Signature of Person Making Affidavit

Sworn-to-and subscribed before me this

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My C

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Notary I

day of

My Commission Expires

DIRECTOR Eric D. Miller

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ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR Bernadette S.N. Chargualaf **PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE CORPORATION** (Kotperasion Setbision Defensot Pupbleku)

> GOVERNMENT OF GUAM 779 Route 4 Sinajana, Guam 96910 Tel: (671) 475-3100 ◆Fax: (671) 477-5844

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October 23, 2014

Brandon Perron, CCDI National Training Director Criminal Defense Investigation Training Council

Dear Mr. Perron,

This letter is to recommend Investigator Sea Alvarez for Board Certification by the National Criminal Defense Investigator Training Council. I believe that Ms. Alvarez's commitment to indigent defense and exceptional performance as an investigator will withstand the most rigorous scrutiny of the CDITC and I recommend her for Board Certification without reservation.

I have worked closely with Ms. Alvarez since I joined the Guam Public Defender Service Corporation ("PDSC") in 2011. As a defense attorney and former prosecutor, I have worked with approximately fifteen different investigators and Ms. Alvarez has established herself to be not only the most valuable investigator, but the most valuable asset to me in any jury trial. PDSC is filled with brilliant attorneys, staff, and investigators: Ms. Alvarez is still the colleague I turn to first for every seemingly un-winnable case.

Ms. Alvarez demonstrates the highest level of intellectual acuity and knowledge: she is constantly challenging herself (and me!) to learn and implement new technology and research to advocate for our clients. The first time I handed her a file for a client accused of sexual assault against a small child ("please look at this and try to figure something out for us"), she came back to me the next day to discuss the issue of confirmation bias, having spent hours reading legal and psychiatric articles. When the trial court of a neighboring island issued an order regarding admissibility of mitochondrial DNA in Pacific Islander cases, Ms. Alvarez was the first of my colleagues to learn about the science and discuss ways to apply the same analysis for our clients. Despite the limited training opportunities available in our office, Ms. Alvarez constantly avails herself to educational resources online and in the community, including forums and lectures at the University of Guam, and excels in the investigation of even the most sophisticated cases involving scientific evidence.

Ms. Alvarez certainly meets or exceeds the qualifications necessary to be an investigator, but I believe it is her work ethic and commitment to our clients that makes her exceptional. Although the skill and accomplishments of a criminal defense team are not necessarily linked to any win-loss rate at trial, I believe the incredible acquittal rate in Ms. Alvarez's cases is evidence of her abilities. Ms. Alvarez has developed an expertise in her assistance in felony jury trials, particularly in cases involving allegations of criminal sexual conduct. She is especially talented at reading body language which is invaluable when selecting a jury and trying to gauge their opinions throughout a trial and has developed a reputation amongst the PDSC attorneys as the "jury-whisperer" and attorneys frequently request Ms. Alvarez to assist in their trials. When talking to jurors post-verdict, their reasons for acquittal are consistently attributable directly to Ms. Alvarez's investigation: "You knew so much more about the case than the prosecutors;" "The defense's exhibits/photographs/demonstratives made everything so clear;" and the frequent-but-terrifying "All your evidence really proved him innocent!" Moreover, the positive feedback from our clients (and often victims) about Ms. Alvarez's professionalism speak volumes about her accomplishments here at PDSC.

Ms. Alvarez demonstrates the highest level of investigator skills. If I assign her a file to investigate, I can expect that she will come back to me with facts, photographs, an investigatory report, and interviews of witnesses, and additionally be prepared to discuss theme & theory, possible expert witnesses, and trial strategy. Ms. Alvarez pushes herself to remain up-to-date on relevant technology and social media investigations and our clients feel an enormous sense of confidence in our representation of them as a result of these thorough investigations.

Ms. Alvarez's ethical standards are perhaps best illustrated in her handling of cases involving child victims. Our clients charged with crimes against children are the most vilified, the possible penalties enormous, and the alleged victims some of the most vulnerable. When interviewing witnesses and children in these cases, it is imperative that an investigator is self-aware in order to accurately and thoroughly report facts. It is not uncommon for me to suspect that an investigator's emotions or beliefs have contaminated an investigation, which creates a huge mess. I have 100% confidence in Ms. Alvarez's reporting of facts and investigations in child victim (and all) cases. During interviews of children, she has discreetly suggested to me that the child's restlessness may be influencing accuracy and we have ended the interview, and she has done extensive research on child interviews and suggestibility to ensure that *we* are not improperly influencing any child. Ms. Alvarez handles these cases in a way which highlight her professional integrity while providing the backbone for our zealous defense: child victims frequently smile and wave at "Ms. Sea" throughout their testimony at trial while we are simultaneously presenting facts which result in our client's acquittal.

Ms. Alvarez truly exemplifies all canons in the CDITC Code of Ethics and she has my unequivocal support in seeking Board Certification. I am extremely pleased that Ms. Alvarez was able to attend your training this summer: it has provided her with even more resources to continue her exceptional work for our indigent clients. Please feel free to contact me should you have questions or wish to further discuss Ms. Alvarez's certification.

Sinceroly,

Mikaela Silkey Henderson



ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR Wilfred G. Aflague **PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE CORPORATION** (Kotperasion Setbision Defensot Pupbleku)

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May 28, 2015

#### **VIA HAND DELIVERY**

Mr. Brandon Perron National Training Director Criminal Defense Investigation Training Council

#### **Re: Application of Ms. Sea Alvarez**

Dear Mr. Perron:

I am writing this letter to recommend Public Defender Investigator Sea Alvarez for Board Certification by the National Criminal Defense Investigator Training Council.

I have known Ms. Alvarez professionally for more than 15 years. For the last eight years, I have had the benefit of working with her in the same office, and for the last sixteen months she and I have been assigned to the same defense team. We work together every day, and I depend on her work product in every case that requires an investigator's work. I can state without hesitation or reservation that her broad range of training and experience, her personal integrity, and her commitment to professional excellence qualify her for certification.

My professional interaction with Ms. Alvarez began in the late nineties, when she was a probation officer. This was before our court system was fully automated, and the ability of an individual probation officer to provide current information to the attorneys and to the court was dependent almost entirely on the ability of that officer to know the detailed circumstances of the clients who were her caseload. Sea Alvarez stood out as one of a very small handful of officers who seemed always to be aware of new developments with her cases. By the same token (and this is what impressed me the most as a defense attorney), if a client faced particular challenges on the road to reform, she was aware of this, and made sure the court was aware of it as well. Every probation officer can report a violator to the court. It takes a higher level of dedication, and a greater work ethic, to know one's clients well enough to be able to help the court assess the nature and quality of the clients' acts.

In 2004, our Superior Court began an effort to deal with the special needs of mentally ill individuals in the criminal justice system. While this is a problem all across the country, Guam faces special challenges because we have no forensic unit to house mentally ill offenders, and our chronically underfunded mental health system has relied for years on the efforts of family members to solve critical issues such as housing and transportation. Ms. Alvarez was the person chosen by the Probation

Office to coordinate this effort. While I was not the primary defense attorney assigned to this endeavor, at all times I had clients in the program. Because the staffing meetings often took place in our office conference room, I had many opportunities to attend. Once again I was impressed with her ability to understand each client's criminal and medical situation, to research the family and agency support systems available, and to present this information at staffing meetings with collaborating stakeholders. All of the attorneys who saw how effectively she met this challenge also appreciated her personal commitment to the welfare of our clients. When the Public Defender had an opening for an investigator, Ms. Alvarez' outstanding work with the mental health court helped make her the leading candidate for the position.

Since she joined the Public Defender in 2008, she has worked without ceasing on hundreds of cases. Arrests on Guam occur as soon as probable cause appears, so it is a rare case that has been properly investigated by law enforcement. Nearly every case requires a careful investigation by the defense. In addition, Guam does not have a bail bond system, so the only way indigent clients can apply for pretrial release is if our office can demonstrate to the court that our client's friends or family can reliably assure his behavior and compliance with court orders. It falls on our investigators to contact and interview family members and to coordinate the effort to gain our clients' release.

Her assignments have included virtually every type of case, from multi-defendant petty misdemeanors to serious assaultive crimes, including criminal sexual conduct and homicide. She is equally at home looking for evidence in a computer or a stack of documents, or going door to door in a residential neighborhood. The witness might be a young girl or a sullen lifelong criminal, might be any of the many races or cultures that call Guam home, and may even have mental health issues, yet she will engage the person in conversation, and if there is information locked away, Sea Alvarez is the one to access it. In all the years we have worked together, she has never given me the slightest reason to question her honesty or integrity. When we are in court together, I am proud to have her at my side because I know how well she reflects on our office.

During more than 30 years of practice in criminal law in Guam and California, both with the prosecution and the defense, I have worked closely with dozens of criminal investigators, many of whom were lucky enough to have the benefit of much more training than is available on Guam. In my opinion, only two or three of these investigators were her peers, and no one brings to the job a higher degree of personal commitment to the needs of our clients. It gives me distinct pleasure to support her efforts toward Board Certification. Please feel free to contact me in the future should you have further questions, or would like to discuss her certification.

Sincerely

**RICHARD S. DIRKX** Assistant Public Defender



The Criminal Defense Investigation Training Council

## UNCOVERING REASONABLE DOUBT The Training Seminar ™

This is to certify that on June 20, 2014

## Séa Cruz Alvarez

Successfully completed the prescribed training Within the discipline of

## Criminal Defense Investigation Academy The Component Method™

Computer Forensics & Data Recovery Techniques Introduction to Blood Spatter Analysis & Blood Detection Forensic Firearms Examination

40 Hours, June 20, 2014

Brandon A. Perron, CCDI CDITC National Director

This Certificate of Training is presented By The Criminal Defense Investigation Training Council, on this 20th day of June 2014.



### BEFORE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE CORPORATION RELATIVE TO THE USE OF PDSC LAPSED FUNDS TO ENABLE PDSC INVESTIGATORS TO ATTEND THE CRIMINAL DEFENSE INVESTIGATION TRAINING COUNCIL'S 40-HOUR TRAINING ACADEMY PROGRAM FROM JUNE 16-20, 2014 IN JENSEN BEACH, FLORIDA

#### **RESOLUTION NO. PDSC 09-14 (Amended)**

WHEREAS, §11113.1 of 12 GCA authorizes the Public Defender Service Corporation (PDSC) to retain unexpended appropriations beginning with Fiscal Year 2000, and to carry these funds over into succeeding fiscal years; and

- WHEREAS, the PDSC Board of Trustees adopted Resolution No. 99-07 requiring Board approval for the budgeting of and/or spending authorization(s) for these lapsed funds; and
- WHEREAS, the Corporation recognizes the importance of providing training opportunities for its employees, in order to keep them abreast of the latest techniques and advancements in their fields; and
- WHEREAS, PDSC Chief Investigator Robbie T. Call has researched and discovered the training opportunity provided by the Criminal Defense Investigation Training Council's 40-Hour Training Academy, which will eventually lead to the recognition of PDSC's investigators as Certified Defense Investigators (please see attachments as to a description and synopsis of this program); and
- WHEREAS, a training session is slated for June 16-20, 2014 in Jensen Beach, Florida with the total cost for attendance by PDSC Investigators Sea C. Alvarez and Randolph F. Rivera being **\$6,439.38** as referenced on the attached spreadsheet; and
- WHEREAS, for Fiscal Year 2014, off-island travel was not budgeted for as instructed by the PDSC Board of Trustees due to budgetary constraints being experienced by the government of Guam; and
- WHEREAS, PDSC Executive Director Eric D. Miller and Administrative Director Bernadette S.N. Chargualaf encourage and support the attendance by these PDSC investigators; now therefore be it

# **RESOLVED,** The Board of Trustees of the Public Defender Service Corporation, in its meeting of March 21, 2014, hereby approves the Corporation's request for

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the expenditure of  $\underline{$6,439.38}$  in lapsed funds for the purposes described above, and as specified on the attachments hereto, which are made a part of this resolution; and be it further

- **RESOLVED,** Investigator II Séa C. Alvarez and Investigator I Randolph F. Rivera must execute a "Contract" with the PDSC relative to their commitment toward continued employment with the PDSC for a minimum of two (2) years following completion of the program described herein; and be it further
- **RESOLVED,** in the event that any of these individuals fail to successfully complete the academic training presented herein, the respective employee shall reimburse the PDSC for any expenditures made on his/her behalf for this purpose; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** upon recognition as "Certified Criminal Defense Investigators", PDSC employees shall fulfill any Continuing Education Unit (CEU) requirements to retain their certification.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED this 21st day of March, 2014.

Chief Justice ROBERT J. TORRES

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ATTEST:

BERNADET **GHARGUALAF** Secretary





The Criminal Defense Investigation Training Council

Board Certification, Accreditation, & Training

Public Defender Investigator Program 416 SE Balboa Avenue, Suite 2 Stuart, Florida 34994 Website: Defenseinvestigator.com Toll Free: 1-800-465-5233 Facsimile: 772-288-4910

June 19, 2015

Sea C. Alvarez, CCDI *Board Certified Criminal Defense Investigator* PO Box 760 Hagatna, Guam 96932

Re: Board Certification

Dear Ms. Alvarez,

Congratulations! You have been awarded the designation of *Board Certified Criminal Defense Investigator*. The designation is based upon your reputation, qualifications, and accomplishments as a specialist within the discipline of criminal defense investigation.

A certificate reflecting your designation is enclosed. You are now authorized to reflect the title and designation of *Board Certified Criminal Defense Investigator or C.C.D.I.* Once again, congratulations. You have earned it.

On a personal note - I would like to add that contributions to the discipline of criminal defense investigation by professionals such as you are setting the standard for others to follow. Thank you for your continued contribution to the discipline.

Respectfully,

Brandon A. Perron, CCDI, FCI, National Director Board Certified Criminal Defense Investigator

Mandamus Veritas