

FEB 12 2013 J.M./BS

RESOLUTION

of the
**ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS**

regarding
**INTERNATIONAL CRUISE AND EXCURSIONS, INC.
QUALIFIED TARGET INDUSTRY TAX REFUND**

Resolution No. 2013-M-04

PREMISES

WHEREAS, in 1994, the Florida legislature passed legislation establishing a “Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program” (“QTI Program”) to encourage the creation of new high-wage job opportunities in Florida by providing “tax refunds” to qualified target industries; and

WHEREAS, International Cruise and Excursions, Inc. (ICE) is headquartered in Scottsdale, AZ with offices in the United States, Mexico, the United Kingdom, Spain, Portugal, Ireland, Austria, Australia and Singapore; and

WHEREAS, ICE is a worldwide travel and leisure organization with a global network of innovative travel alliances including top Corporations, resorts, cruise lines and leisure travel providers; and

WHEREAS, ICE employs over 1,200 employees worldwide and seeks to locate their new business unit preferably in unincorporated Orange County; and

WHEREAS, ICE’s services provides clients the ability to leverage the power and appeal of vacations through fully branded travel and cruise programs with access to flights, cruises, hotels, resorts, tours, car rentals, golf tee-times, wine clubs and packaged products via a proven e-commerce platform partnered with full service state of the art call center, customer service and fulfillment operations; and

WHEREAS, ICE anticipates creating approximately two hundred (200) new jobs in Orange County at an average annual salary of at least \$46,955, which is 115% of the prevailing salary of \$40,830 in Orange County; and

WHEREAS, ICE anticipates that the new jobs to be created will include approximately one hundred and seventy-nine (179) sales positions, fourteen (14) management positions, five (5) administrative positions and two (2) IT positions; and

WHEREAS, ICE anticipates that these new jobs will be created according to the following schedule: Seventy-five (75) jobs by December 31, 2013; seventy-five (75) jobs in calendar year 2014 and fifty (50) jobs in calendar year 2015; and

WHEREAS, ICE has applied to the Executive Office of the Governor, Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development for approval as a qualified QTI Program applicant, and has applied for \$600,000 in tax refunds from the State of Florida under the QTI Program, representing \$3,000 per job; and

WHEREAS, in order for ICE to be approved as a “qualified applicant” under the QTI Program, the Orange County Board of County Commissioners must adopt a resolution recommending the approval of ICE as a “target industry business,” and committing “local financial support” in an amount equal to 20% of the annual tax refund up to but not exceeding \$120,000 over the course of ICE’ eligibility as a “qualified applicant”; and

WHEREAS, competition for ICE’s expansion exists outside of Florida, and financial incentives are necessary to ensure that this project comes to Orange County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ORANGE COUNTY:

Section 1. The Board of County Commissioners of Orange County, Florida, hereby recommends that the State of Florida Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development approve ICE as a “qualified applicant” under the QTI Program.

Section 2. Subject to the terms of this Resolution, the Board hereby approves payments up to, but not exceeding, one hundred and twenty thousand dollars (\$120,000) in “local financial support” required under the QTI Program. Such amount shall be payable to the Economic Development Incentives Account within the Economic Development Trust Fund as specified herein.

Section 3. The Board’s promise to pay the amount specified in this Resolution is contingent upon (i) appropriation by the Board in each applicable year authorizing payment of the revenues hereunder, (ii) ICE receiving the designation as a “qualified applicant” in connection with the QTI program, and (iii) on an annual basis, award by the State of Florida of tax refunds under the QTI program.

Section 4. Unless provided otherwise in this Resolution, the County shall pay “local financial support” in the following amounts:

FY 2013-2014	\$ 11,250
FY 2014-2015	\$ 22,500
FY 2015-2016	\$ 30,000
FY 2016-2017	\$ 30,000
FY 2017-2018	\$ 18,750
FY 2018-2019	\$ 7,500
Total	<u>\$ 120,000</u>

Such sums shall be paid from any legally available source or sources of revenue other than those specified in the QTI Program (or rules promulgated thereunder) as being ineligible for such purpose.

Section 5. In the event ICE is approved by the State of Florida for tax refunds in an amount less than the \$600,000 requested, the “local financial support” to be paid by the County to the Economic Development Incentives Account shall be proportionately reduced so that at no time will the County contribution exceed twenty percent (20%) of the annual tax refund awarded to ICE under the QTI Program.

Section 6. This Resolution shall take effect upon receipt by the County of evidence that ICE has been approved as a “qualified applicant” and has become eligible for tax refunds under the QTI program, as described herein.

ADOPTED THIS FEB 12 2013 DAY OF February, 2013.

ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Board of County Commissioners

BY:


Teresa Jacobs
County Mayor

ATTEST: Martha O. Haynie, County Comptroller
As Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners

BY: 
Deputy Clerk

