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[Settlement of Lawsuit - BHR Operations LLC, dba Crowne Plaza and dba Holiday Inn Fisherman's Wharf, et al. - \$1,613,554.74]

Ordinance authorizing settlement of two lawsuits filed by BHR Operations LLC, dba Crowne Plaza and dba Holiday Inn Fisherman's Wharf, et al. against the City and County of San Francisco for \$1,613,554.74 to be distributed as follows: BHR Operations LLC \$379,969.68, Hotel Nikko of San Francisco Inc. \$201,741.40, Datam S.F. LLC \$277,953.69, RP/Kinetic Parc 55 Owner, LLC \$25,601.63, S.F. Hilton LLC \$447,301.52, W2005 Argent Hotel Realty LLC \$42,857.19, British Airways Plc \$163,369.38, Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd \$74,760.25; the lawsuits were filed in San Francisco Superior Court, as Case No. CGC-10-498514 entitled BHR Operations LLC, dba Crowne Plaza and dba Holiday Inn Fisherman's Wharf, et al. v. City and County of San Francisco, et al. filed on April 9, 2010, and Case No. CGC-10-505526 entitled British Airways Plc v. City and County of San Francisco, et al. filed on November 19, 2010; other material terms of the settlement include the City's retaining transient occupancy taxes collected by the Tax Collector, and the plaintiffs' agreement to pay transient occupancy taxes in the future according to the Tax Collector's regulations; the lawsuits involve a dispute between the City and the hotel and airline industry about whether airline crew rooms are exempt from the City's transient occupancy tax.

Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

Section 1. Pursuant to Charter Section 6.102(5), the Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the City Attorney to settle the actions entitled BHR Operations LLC, dba Crowne Plaza and dba Holiday Inn Fisherman's Wharf, et al. v. City and County of San Francisco, et al., San Francisco Superior Court, Case No. CGC-10-498514 and British Airways PLC v. City

and County of San Francisco, et al., San Francisco Superior Court, Case No. CGC-10-505526, by the payment of a \$1,613,554.74 refund comprising penalties and interest collected by the Tax Collector. Other material terms of the settlement include San Francisco's retaining all of the underlying transient occupancy tax payments and a portion of the interest collected by the Tax Collector, and the plaintiffs' agreement to pay transient occupancy taxes in the future according to the Tax Collector's regulations. The lawsuits involve a dispute between the City and the hotel and airline industry about whether airline crew rooms are exempt from the City's transient occupancy tax, aka "hotel tax."

Section 2. The first of the above-named actions was filed in San Francisco Superior Court on April 9, 2010, and the following parties were named in the lawsuit: Defendant City and County of San Francisco; Plaintiffs BHR Operations LLC, dba Crowne Plaza and dba Holiday Inn Fisherman's Wharf, Hotel Nikko of San Francisco, Inc., Datam S.F., LLC, dba Hotel Nikko, RP/Kinetic Parc 55 Owner, LLC, S.F. Hilton LLC, dba Hilton San Francisco Union Square, W2005 Argent Hotel Realty LLC, American Airlines, Inc., Asiana Airlines, Inc., British Airways, plc, Cathay Pacific Airways Limited, Cia. Mexicana de Aviacion, S.A. de C. V., Japan Airlines International Co., Ltd., Korean Air Lines Co., Ltd., and United Air Lines, Inc. The second of the above-named actions was filed in San Francisco Superior Court on November 19, 2010, and the following parties were named in the lawsuit: Defendant City and County of San Francisco and Plaintiff British Airways PLC.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND RECOMMENDED:

DENNIS J. HERRERA

City Attorney

JEAN ALEXANDER Chief Tax Attorney

**FUNDS AVAILABLE:** 

BEN RÓSENFIELD Controller

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RECOMMENDED:

TREASURER & TAX COLLECTOR

JOSÉ CISNEROS Treasurer



## City and County of San Francisco Tails

City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

## Ordinance

File Number: 170731 Date Passed: July 25, 2017

Ordinance authorizing settlement of two lawsuits filed by BHR Operations LLC, dba Crowne Plaza and dba Holiday Inn Fisherman's Wharf, et al. against the City and County of San Francisco for \$1,613,554.74 to be distributed as follows: BHR Operations LLC \$379,969.68, Hotel Nikko of San Francisco Inc. \$201,741.40, Datam S.F. LLC \$277,953.69, RP/Kinetic Parc 55 Owner, LLC \$25,601.63, S.F. Hilton LLC \$447,301.52, W2005 Argent Hotel Realty LLC \$42,857.19, British Airways Plc \$163,369.38, Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd \$74,760.25; the lawsuits were filed in San Francisco Superior Court, as Case No. CGC-10-498514 entitled BHR Operations LLC, dba Crowne Plaza and dba Holiday Inn Fisherman's Wharf, et al. v. City and County of San Francisco, et al. filed on April 9, 2010, and Case No. CGC-10-505526 entitled British Airways Plc v. City and County of San Francisco, et al. filed on November 19, 2010; other material terms of the settlement include the City's retaining transient occupancy taxes collected by the Tax Collector, and the plaintiffs' agreement to pay transient occupancy taxes in the future according to the Tax Collector's regulations; the lawsuits involve a dispute between the City and the hotel and airline industry about whether airline crew rooms are exempt from the City's transient occupancy tax.

July 17, 2017 Government Audit and Oversight Committee - RECOMMENDED AS COMMITTEE REPORT

July 18, 2017 Board of Supervisors - PASSED ON FIRST READING

Ayes: 11 - Breed, Cohen, Farrell, Fewer, Kim, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Sheehy, Tang and Yee

July 25, 2017 Board of Supervisors - FINALLY PASSED

Ayes: 11 - Breed, Cohen, Farrell, Fewer, Kim, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Sheehy, Tang and Yee

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was FINALLY PASSED on 7/25/2017 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

> Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

Date Approved