



December 28th, 2016

Mr. Jose Carrión
Chairman
Financial Oversight & Management Board
San Juan, Puerto Rico

Esteemed Mr. Carrión,

The unprecedented fiscal and economic challenges being faced by Puerto Rico create an urgent need to make equally unprecedented changes. There is a real opportunity to use technology to transform Puerto Rico's government's operations to save money and improve the quality of the services delivered. We have been working on an initiative called the Puerto Rico Innovation & Technology Service (PRITS) which takes a page from the successful and highly regarded United States Digital Service (USDS) implemented during President Barack Obama's administration.

The PRITS is a fundamental step in providing what Puerto Rico most needs: transparency, efficiency, and economic development. The PRITS will comprise a cadre of highly talented digital minds who will be in charge of transforming Puerto Rico to a "digital native" government.

Puerto Rico's long-term success requires that we work together - The Financial Oversight Board and our new local government - and this is one of our first opportunities. We must leverage the latest digital technology to reinvent government services, so that we can better serve our citizens at a much lower cost than today. To achieve that, Puerto Rico's government needs to recruit and empower top-level talent to lead the government-wide coordination of IT investments and implementations that prioritize user-centered design and maximize efficiency and transparency.

PROMESA provides one of the necessary tools to assist in creating the PRITS in a cost-effective manner. The Financial Oversight Board may request to detail Federal employees from the US Digital Service currently willing to serve in Puerto Rico and assign them to this important task. These people will have the knowledge and experience to support a wide range of issues and they can help us find creative ways to do things radically different and at much lower costs. We can reform technology procurement with the TechFAR Handbook, adopt better data gathering and reporting models, and ensure a transparent and efficient operation for years to come.

In short, our request is for the Board to initiate a petition to detail US Digital Service and 18F personnel from the Federal Government to be placed in the PRITS on multi-year assignments. PRITS would allow Puerto Rico to leapfrog into a brighter future by leveraging the knowledge and experience of the US Digital Service and to use it as a test bed of digitally-enabled services across the government and throughout the entire Island.

We trust that you will see the unique opportunity for collaboration in this matter and the key role that it can play in restoring Puerto Rico's fiscal health and economic prosperity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "RICARDO ROSSELLÓ". The signature is stylized with a cursive-like flow.

Ricardo Rosselló Nevares, PhD
Governor Elect