Subject: Regental Action Required Under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute

Action Requested: Authorization for the University of Michigan to Enter into a Lease Amendment Agreement with Milcom Inc. (University of Michigan Clinical Lecturer Robert C. Arends, owner)

Background:

The University of Michigan wishes to enter into a lease amendment agreement for 2,523 square feet of property located at 320 West Commerce Road, Milford, Michigan, to be leased from Milcom Inc. The space will be utilized for ophthalmology services patient care.

The proposed lease amendment agreement falls under the State of Michigan conflict of interest statute as Robert C. Arends is a University of Michigan employee and would be a party to the lease amendment agreement by virtue of his ownership of Milcom Inc. However, the statute allows university employees to participate in such lease amendment agreements, if the following conditions are met:

a) The public servant promptly discloses any pecuniary interest in the lease amendment agreement to the official body that has power to approve the lease amendment agreement, which disclosure shall be a matter of record in its official proceedings.

b) The lease amendment agreement is approved by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the full membership of the approving body in open session without the vote of the public servant making the disclosure.

c) The official body discloses the following summary information in its official minutes:

i) The name of each party involved in the lease amendment agreement.

ii) The terms of the lease amendment agreement, including duration, financial consideration between the parties, facilities or services of the public entity included in the lease amendment agreement, and the nature and degree of assignment of employees of the public entity for fulfillment of the lease amendment agreement.

iii) The nature of any pecuniary interest.
The following information is provided in compliance with the statutory requirements contained in Section (c) above:

i) The parties to the lease amendment agreement are the Regents of the University of Michigan and Milcom Inc.

ii) The service to be provided is the lease of 2,523 square feet in a building at 320 West Commerce Road, Milford, Michigan, for two years beginning February 1, 2012, through January 31, 2014, at a monthly rate of $5,429.13. Tenant will be responsible for gas and electric usage plus janitorial service.

iii) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that Robert C. Arends, a University of Michigan employee, is the owner of Milcom Inc.

Robert C. Arends has met state law requirements with the disclosure of his pecuniary interest and his formal appointment arrangements with the University of Michigan.

We recommend that the Board of Regents approve the lease amendment agreement between the University of Michigan and Milcom Inc. subject to the requirements, if any, of a conflict management plan required by the respective employee’s supervisor, and any requirements imposed by the conflict of interest committees of the Medical School or the Office of the Vice President for Research.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy P. Slottow  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer

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