THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject:

Regental Action Required Under the State of

Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute

Action Requested:

Authorization for the University to enter into an agreement with Covington & Burling LLP (University of Michigan Employee, Broderick Johnson, Employee).

Background:

The University of Michigan Poverty Solutions seeks approval to enter into an agreement with Covington & Burling LLP for consultation on municipal job subsidy programs for the city of Detroit.

The proposed agreement falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as Broderick Johnson is a University employee as Intermittent Lecturer in Law with the University of Michigan Law School and would be party to the agreement as Employee of Covington & Burling LLP.

However, the Statute allows the University to enter into such agreements if the following conditions are met:

- a) The public servant promptly discloses any pecuniary interest in the contract to the official body which has power to approve the purchase, which disclosure shall be a matter of record in its official proceedings.
- b) The purchase is approved by a vote of not less than 2/3 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 contract.
 - ii) The terms of the purchase, including duration, financial consideration between the parties, facilities or services of the public entity included in the purchase, and the nature and degree of assignment of employees of the public entity for fulfillment of the purchase.
 - 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 contract are the Regents of the University of Michigan and its Poverty Solutions and Covington & Burling LLP.
- ii) The agreement is for a duration of one year at a total cost not to exceed \$10,900. Covington & Burling LLP will be supplying all the necessary resources and personnel to fulfill this contract. The remaining base contract terms and conditions were tailored to meet the particular needs of this contract and have been approved by Procurement Services after advice from the Office of General Counsel.
- iii) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that University of Michigan employee, Broderick Johnson, is Employee of Covington & Burling LLP.

Broderick Johnson has met state law requirements with the disclosure of his pecuniary interest and formal appointment arrangements with the University of Michigan. Requirements, if any, that may be applicable by the supervisor of Broderick Johnson, under the Medical School's or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee's procedures are separately analyzed and managed.

<u>We recommend</u> that the Board of Regents approve the agreement between the University of Michigan and Covington & Burling LLP subject to requirements, if any, that the supervisor of Broderick Johnson or the Medical School's or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee may impose.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin P Hegarty

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

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