

**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 transact with Flowergirl LLC (University of Michigan Employee, Aileen Kennison, Owner).

**Background:**

The University of Michigan School of Education seeks approval to transact with Flowergirl LLC for floral arrangements. The arrangements will be used for decorations at the Community Convocation Luncheon and the Dean's Fall Reception.

The proposed agreement falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as Aileen Kennison is a University employee as Administrative Specialist and Lecturer I with the School of Education and would be party to the agreement as owner of Flowergirl LLC.

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 School of Education and Flowergirl LLC.
- ii) The agreement is for a one time purchase at a total cost not to exceed \$600. Flowergirl LLC will be supplying all the necessary resources and personnel to fulfill this contract. The remaining base contract terms and conditions are typical to those used in Procurement Services standard templates for other similar contracts entered into by the Regents.
- iii) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that University of Michigan employee, Aileen Kennison, is owner of Flowergirl LLC.

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

We recommend that the Board of Regents approve the agreement between the University of Michigan and Flowergirl LLC subject to requirements, if any, that the supervisor of Aileen Kennison or the Medical School's or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee may impose.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin R. Hegarty", is written over the typed name and title.

Kevin R. Hegarty  
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

October 2019