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

Authorization for the University to purchase from Methods Consultants of Ann Arbor, LLC (University of Michigan Employee, Amy K. Drayton, Partner)

The University of Michigan, Department of Communication Studies within the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts seeks approval to purchase from Methods Consultants of Ann Arbor ("Methods Consultants") for statistical consulting services.

The proposed agreement falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as Amy K. Drayton is a University employee as Clinical Assistant Professor with the University of Michigan Hospital, Department of Pediatrics and would be a party to the contract as a Partner of Methods Consultants.

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 Department of Communication Studies and Methods Consultants.

ii) The agreement is for statistical consulting services to assist Professor Saleem's research project at a total cost of $500. Methods Consulting 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, Amy K. Drayton, is a Partner of Methods Consultants.

Amy K. Drayton 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 Amy K. Drayton 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 Methods Consultants subject to requirements, if any, that the supervisor of Amy K. Drayton or the Medical School’s or OVPR’s Conflict of Interest Committee may impose.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin A. Hegarty
Executive Vice President
and Chief Financial Officer

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