

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION**

**Approved by the
Regents
May 21, 2015**

ACTION REQUEST

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

Action Requested: Authorization for the University to transact with Synecdoche (University of Michigan Employee, Adam Smith, Owner)

Background:

The University of Michigan Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design seeks approval to transact with Synecdoche for video product services. The school needs freelance video services to help document and promote certain stories. This video will be used to gain visibility for the school's interdisciplinary and design-related activities as well as the new Master of Design program

The proposed agreement falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as Adam Smith is a University employee as Intermittent Lecturer in Architecture and Videographer at the A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning and would be a party to the contract as Owner of Synecdoche.

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.