

## CITY OF SPOKANE ETHICS COMMISSION

Ethics Commission's Decision Approving Request  
by the Chief Financial Officer, Tonya Wallace, and Director of Neighborhoods,  
Housing, and Human Services Director, Cupid Alexander

On February 3, 2021, Tonya Wallace, City of Spokane Chief Financial Officer, and Cupid Alexander, Director of Neighborhoods, Housing, and Human Services, notified the City of Spokane's Ethics Commission pursuant to SMC 1.04.030 O. 3 of their request for the Commission's approval of the City contracting with a former city employee for expert or consulting services. The former employee's new employer, Integrate Technology, LLC, submitted a similar request on February 4, 2021. Copies of the letters are attached to this decision.

SMC 1.04.030 O. 3 provides that whenever a City officer or employee wishes to contract with a former City officer or employee for expert or consultant services within one year of the officer or employee leaving City service, advance notice shall be given to and approval received from the Ethics Commission.

The Ethics Commission met on February 17, 2021 to review the request. Pursuant to the facts set forth in the letters from Ms. Wallace, Mr. Alexander and Integrate Technology, LLC. (a sole proprietorship owned by former employee Ariane E. Schmidt), the testimony presented to the Commission and the provisions of SMC 1.04.030 O. 3, the Ethics Commission determines that:

1. Notice has been given to the Ethics Commission,
2. The evidence submitted in the letters from Ms. Wallace, Mr. Alexander and Integrate Technology, LLC and the testimony provided to the Commission demonstrates benefit to the City by having the former City employee, Ariane E. Schmidt, work on the project, which the City will be contracting for with her new employer, Integrate Technology, LLC,
3. There are no adverse effects to the City in granting approval, and
4. No violations of the Ethics Code would occur by approving the request.

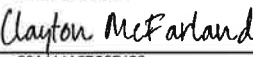
The Ethics Commission approves by a vote of six to zero, with Commissioner Cronin abstaining, the request by the City's Chief Financial Officer and Director of Neighborhoods, Housing and Human Services, for approval of the City contracting with Integrate Technology, LLC, a solely owned company of former city employee Ariane Schmidt, for expert or consulting services as set forth in the attached letters.

DocuSigned by:

  
Sarah O'Hare, Co-Chair

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DocuSigned by:

  
Clayton McFarland, Co-Chair

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2/24/2021

Date

2/24/2021

Date

Signature: Cupid Alexander  
Cupid Alexander (Feb 3, 2021 08:56 PST)

Email: calexander@spokanecity.org

City of Spokane Ethics Commission  
Office of the City Attorney  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor City Hall  
W. 808 Spokane Falls Blvd.  
Spokane, WA 99201

February 2, 2021

Dear Members of the Ethics Commission:

The City's Division of Finance and Administration and Division of Neighborhood, Housing and Human Services is seeking review and approval for consulting services with a former City employee within one year of leaving city service, as defined in the City's Code of Ethics section 01.04A.030. Admittedly, these consulting services were utilized during January 2021 in continuity of a current project until this issue came to our attention. We then became aware that a request for a waiver would be required, and we immediately paused all aspects of the contract until resolution.

The contracted former employee, Ariane Schmidt, had been dually employed with the City of Spokane, and Spokane County for about eight (8) years in an exempt, appointed position – on working projects including: the integration and implementation of Tyler New World, Mental Health Crisis Stabilization Facility, coordinated COVID-19 response efforts, jail booking and other detention projects, and, most recently, bridge and young adult sheltering. Compensation for Ms. Schmidt was shared equally.

During the fall of 2020, the City and the County embarked on a new agreement, that clarified the function and role of the work needed, and how Ms. Schmidt could provide the needed services. Unfortunately, an agreement could not be reached. An agreement could not be reached, and the County opted to engage in a consulting contract with her. Ms. Schmidt decided to consolidate her work, with both the city and the county through her consulting firm, Integrate Technology, LLC., and to resign from her position with the City of Spokane.

Ms. Schmidt serves as the regional governance project manager, and presumable will continue to do such. While simultaneously managing regional information flow related to homelessness, Ms. Schmidt also fills the critical role of helping establish clarifying roles and responsibilities related to Bridge housing, youth sheltering, and serves a vital role as a nonpartisan resource to help right size solutions- and helps insure process flow between the different governmental stakeholders. In 2021, Ms. Schmidt will play a critical role in moving the region's mental health crisis stabilization facility and young adult shelter forward. Her experience, community knowledge and cross-sectional relationships cannot be replicated - and we strongly urge her consideration to this critical position for the betterment of our community.

Thank you for taking the time to review this matter. Please let us know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

*Tonya Wallace*  
Tonya D. Wallace  
Chief Financial Officer

Cupid Alexander  
Cupid Alexander  
NHHS Director

5419 South Hatch Rd  
Spokane, WA 99223  
509.209.3830  
www.integrate-technology.com



February 4, 2021

City of Spokane Ethics Commission  
Attention: Mr. Sam Faggiano  
Office of the City Attorney  
5th Floor City Hall  
W. 808 Spokane Falls Blvd.  
Spokane, WA 99201

Dear Mr. Faggiano,

Integrate Technology LLC is seeking review and approval for consulting services with a former employee, myself, within one year of leaving City service, as defined in the City's Code of Ethics section 01.04A.030.

I have worked for the City of Spokane, collectively, for over fifteen years, with the last eight years in positions assigned to large, regional project management and oversight. The efforts include the implementation of the County-wide law enforcement and 911 information system replacement (Tyler New World), Mental Health Crisis Stabilization Facility for Law Enforcement and various Detention Services and Criminal Justice innovations. The roles have required robust investment and collaboration among local, regional, and State partners for successful outcomes.

Regional partners decided in late 2020 not to continue with a shared fulltime employee (FTE), and hence closed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for my position. I was asked by the City of Spokane and Spokane County to continue specific efforts, under individual contracts with each entity, in 2021. One of these efforts is the project management and strategic facilitation of the Regional Homeless System Leadership group.

The following benefits of ongoing contracted services for the City of Spokane are:

- Continued familiarity with public-private stakeholders who will be asked to participate in the outcome objectives.
- Institutional knowledge of the current state for housing and human services among regional entities that will assist in strategic planning sessions, increased operational efficiencies and the prioritization of investment efforts.
- Familiarity with State and Federal funding streams as well as reporting requirements that must be included in future-pathing efforts.

Thank you for your time to review this request. I am happy to provide additional information or meet with you, or the committee, at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ariane E. Schmidt".

Ariane E. Schmidt MBA, MCSE, PMP  
Owner, Principal