

CITY OF SPOKANE ETHICS COMMISSION


Ethics Commission's Approval Decision Requested by the City's Community and Neighborhood Services Director

On December 20, 2014, Jonathan Mallahan, the City of Spokane's Community and Neighborhood Services Director, notified the City of Spokane's Ethics Commission pursuant to SMC 1.04.030 M. 3 of his request for the Commission's approval to retain a former city employee who retired in the past twelve months as a temporary seasonal employee. A copy of the letter is attached to this decision. SMC 1.04.030 M. 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 latter's leaving City service, advance notice shall be given to and approval received from the Ethics Commission.

The Ethics Commission met on January 14, 2015 to review Mr. Mallahan's request. Pursuant to the facts set forth in Mr. Mallahan's December 20, 2014 letter and the provisions of SMC 1.04.030 M. 3., the Ethics Commission determines that:

1. Appropriate notice has been given to the Ethics Commission,
2. There are no adverse effects to the City in granting approval, and
3. No violations of the Ethics Code would occur by approving the request.

The Ethics Commission approves the request by the Community and Neighborhood Services Director to retain a former city employee, as set forth in the December 20, 2014 letter, as a temporary seasonal employee.

 2-27-15

Troy Bruner - Chairperson Date

memo

City of Spokane – Community and Neighborhood Services

To: Troy Bruner – Ethics Committee Chair
From: Mallahan, Jonathan
CC: Mike Piccolo, Jennifer Stapleton, Nancy Isserlis, David Lewis, Hunt Whaley, Kristine Williams
Date: 12/20/2014
Re: Kristine Williams – Temporary Employment

Comments: Kristine Williams currently works in the Community, Housing and Human Services department in a senior planner classification. She is responsible for the administration of the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and the department's strategic planning documents which are required by federal statute. In November of 2014, Kristine announced her retirement effective December of 2014.

In early 2014, CHHS management assigned an additional program professional to assist Kristine in CDBG program management. Unfortunately, due to the complexity of this federal program, we will lose critical skills when Kristine retires. Additional training and staffing will be required to replace these skills within the department. Specifically, we will lack experience in the creation of the consolidated and action plans and their submission through the federal IDIS system. Systems have been established to manage other responsibilities currently performed by Kristine.

In accordance with SMC 1.04.030, section M, subsection 3, I am writing to request approval to retain Kristine as a temporary seasonal employee through May of 2015. Her responsibilities will be limited to the development and submission of the department's strategic plans and training staff members to perform these tasks. The plans are required to be submitted to the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) department by May of 2015. The term of Kristine's temporary employment will end with the successful submission and approval of the consolidated and action plans.

This exception is necessary to ensure continuity in the City's CDBG program and compliance with federal requirements. I am available to discuss this request with the ethics committee or to provide additional information to assist in the committee's consideration. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.