

DECEMBER 15, 2021

PERMANENT DEBARMENT OF LYNETTE PHILLIPS

THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education of the City of Chicago (“Board”) permanently debar Lynette Phillips (“Respondent”) from doing any business with the Board.

The Board’s Chief Procurement Officer served Respondent with a Notice of Proposed Debarment on September 24, 2021, initiating debarment proceedings against Respondent based on Section 2(b), (c), (f), and (k) of the Board’s Debarment Policy. At the Board’s June 23, 2021 meeting, the Board approved the debarment of Aton Hazly and Superior Printing Supplies, Inc. (“Superior Printing”). Hazly was the president and Respondent was the treasurer of Superior Printing. Respondent was also a CPS employee at Powell Elementary School (“Powell”). CPS’ Department of Internal Audit and Compliance determined that the number of supplies that Powell purchased from Respondent was inflated and that Superior Printing created purchase orders to inflate the sale of supplies to CPS schools and circumvented the Board’s strategic-source vendor rules by diverting sales to Superior Printing that should have properly been fulfilled by the Board’s strategic-source vendor. Respondent also engaged in prohibited self-dealing by purchasing supplies from Superior Printing while also an employee at Powell.

Respondent refused to cooperate with the OIG’s investigation into their activities. Respondent failed to submit a written response to the Notice as required by Section 4(d) of the Board’s Debarment Policy. As such, all allegations in the Notice are deemed admitted. See Debarment Policy, §4(d). The Chief Operating Officer has reviewed the record (as defined in Section 4.5(10) of the Debarment Policy), including OIG Report No. 15-00906, and recommends permanent debarment.

Based on the facts set forth in the record as defined in Section 4.5(10) of the Board’s Debarment Policy, the Chief Operating Officer recommends that the Board permanently debar Respondent from doing any business with the Board effective immediately. All existing contracts between the Board and Respondent are terminated. Respondent is ineligible to act as a subcontractor or supplier to any existing or future Board contracts.

The Board adopts and approves the recommendation of the Chief Operating Officer.

LSC REVIEW: LSC approval is not applicable to this report.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATUS: Affirmative Action review is not applicable to this report.

FINANCIAL: None.

GENERAL CONDITIONS: None.

APPROVED:

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Lindy F. McGuire
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LINDY MCGUIRE
Chief Operating Officer

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

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General Counsel