



**BOARD OF ETHICS
CITY OF CHICAGO**

May 11, 2020

Case No. 20015.W, Lisa Timbo, Waiver from the Prohibited Conduct Provisions of the Ordinance

On March 30, 2020, we received a written request from the Mayor's Chief of Staff for a waiver from the Prohibited Conduct provisions of the Governmental Ethics Ordinance¹ for Lisa Timbo, who was then to be hired as a City employee. The request stated that Ms. Timbo was at that time currently furloughed from her position with Marriott Hotels International ("Marriott"), and would play a critical role in coordinating the City's quarantine and isolation housing solutions with respect to hotels, given her deep experience in managing hotels.

Given the urgency of the situation, and that, by law, only the Board has authority to grant formal waivers, with appropriate conditions, restrictions, or limitations, that day, the Board's Chair and Legal Staff agreed unanimously this waiver is compellingly in the public interest and appropriate per §2-156-402(a)(4) of the Governmental Ethics Ordinance ("Ordinance") and Board Rule 9(2), and issued it, effective that day, subject to the Board's formal approval at its next meeting. The waiver means that, should Ms. Timbo need to make decisions that would affect Marriott or any hotel or property it owns or manages in Chicago, she would be able to do so for as long as is appropriate to address the COVID-19 crisis. But the waiver is limited to such interactions and communications only.

At today's Board meeting, the Board formally voted 4-0 to approve this waiver. We hereby make it public, in accordance with §2-156-402(b) of the Ordinance.

[signed] _____
William F. Conlon, Chair

¹ These provisions, in §2-156-111(d) of the Ordinance, prohibit incoming City employees, like Ms. Timbo, for their first two years in City employment, from making or participating in City decisions in matters that "benefit" their immediately preceding employer, here Marriott, with certain exceptions.