



CITY OF CHICAGO

BOARD OF ETHICS

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Pat Dowell
Chair, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations

From: Steve Berlin, Executive Director
Board of Ethics

CC: Elizabeth Beatty
Mayor's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Date: October 21, 2022

Re: Request for Information from Annual Appropriation Committee Hearing

ID: 78-01 Lobbyist Violations

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on 21 October 2022 to discuss the proposed 2023 budget.

Alderman Reboyras asked for the names and fines of lobbyists held to have violated the Governmental Ethics Ordinance for failing to complete the 2021-2022 mandatory ethics training on time.

In accordance with §§2-156-146, -465(b)(1), and -505 of the City's Municipal Code, the Board determined that the following four registered lobbyists violated the Governmental Ethics Ordinance by failing to complete annual mandatory ethics training by the deadline, which was before July 1, 2022. Where applicable, fines of \$200/day were assessed pursuant to the Ordinance.

Cathleen O'Brien-no fine
James Reynolds-no fine
Howard Piggee-\$1,200 fine
John Kamis-no fine

The Board posted this information on our website on July 22. Please see

<https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/ethics/provdrs/lobby/news/2022/july/latetraininglobbyists.htm>
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As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



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Re: Request for Information from Annual Appropriation Committee Hearing

ID: 78-02 Legislation Recommendations

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on 21 October 2022 to discuss the proposed 2023 budget.

Alderman Vasquez asked for suggestions on further legislation that the City Council can consider.

Pursuant to §2-156-380(f) of the Governmental Ethics Ordinance, which authorizes the Board to recommend such legislative action as it may deem appropriate to affect the policy of the Ordinance, we suggest considering options for strengthening campaign financing and clarifying lobbying registration requirements, such as:

Campaign Financing/Money in Politics

- Extend the annual \$1,500 political contribution limitation to the CEO, CFO, owners of 1% or more of any contributor, and Board of Directors of any persons or companies doing business with the City (or any of its named sister agencies) as either subject to their own \$1,500 limitation, or aggregate their individual contributions to those of the person doing business with the City.



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Lobbying

- Clarify definition of lobbying Consider capping fines for lobbying law violations Clarify thresholds of activity for which individuals who engage in lobbying must register as lobbyists.
- Clarify that seeking City services generally available to residents of the City does not constitute lobbying.
- Add a “self-defense communication” exemption.
- Clarify that lobbyists must identify, in their quarterly activity reports, the title and file number of any legislative action on which they lobbied, and the outcome they sought.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.



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Re: Request for Information from Annual Appropriation Committee Hearing

ID: 78-03 Ald. Reilly Department Budget Questions

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at our department's hearing on 21 October 2022 to discuss the proposed 2023 budget.

Alderman Reilly asked for the following information:

- Changes in headcount projected for 2023:
 - The 2023 Budget Recommendation has the Board's personnel count remaining flat at 8 total positions.
- Number of funded vacancies and breakdown for 2023:
 - The Board currently has one vacancy in 2022 (Program Director) and intends to fill the position prior to year-end. It is possible that this vacancy will carry into 2023 pending the hire process.
- Number of vacancies being cut—what positions (job titles are being eliminated):
 - N/A
- Number of non-union employees to receive salary increases in 2023 budget:
 - 7
- Description of outsourced services projected for 2023:
 - We may seek the services of actors to create ethics videos for City employees, officials and the general public.
- List of savings and cost efficiencies due to zero-based budgeting:
 - We reduced our Software Maintenance and Licensing (0100-0149) budget by \$1,000 per and our Professional and Technical services budget (0100-0140) by \$1,500 per year by migrating our training programs to the City's e-learning format.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions.