

DEBARMENT OF JAMES WEBB**THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board of Education of the City of Chicago ("Board") fully and permanently debar James Webb ("Webb") from doing any business with the Board.

On June 19, 2009, the Board's Chief Purchasing Officer filed and served a Notice of Proposed Debarment ("Notice"), initiating a debarment proceeding against Webb, an Account Manager of Proven Business Systems, LLC ("Proven"). The Notice asserted, among other things, that Webb knowingly used another vendor's name and number to lease Proven machinery to schools in order to avoid the purchasing limit placed on schools. The Notice further alleged that Webb submitted invoices in order to lease items to the Board outside the bidding process and outside the scope of school principals' authority. Webb received his copy of the Notice on June 22, 2009 and subsequently filed an Answer wherein he stated "I would like to admit to the allegations in this notice as it related to the use of multiple vendor numbers." The alleged conduct of Webb was so egregious that the Notice sought to fully and permanently debar Webb.

Section 7.2 of the Debarment Policy states that "[f]raudulent, criminal or other improper conduct of a Respondent may be imputed to any officer, director, shareholder, partner, employee, or other individual associated with Respondent who participated in, knew of, should have known, or had reason to know of the Respondent's conduct." Section 4.5(d) of the Debarment Policy requires a vendor to submit a written, verified Answer to the allegations in a Notice and provides that if a vendor fails to timely file an Answer, all the allegations set forth in the Notice "shall be deemed to be admitted." Webb directly admitted one of the allegations in the Notice; however, as of October 26, 2009—124 days after the Notice of Debarment was served on Webb—Webb has failed to file an Answer to the remaining allegations of the Notice.

Based on his admissions—whether via direct admission or default—of the matters alleged in the Notice of Proposed Debarment, the Chief Administrative Officer recommends that the Board fully and permanently debar Webb from doing any business with the Board.

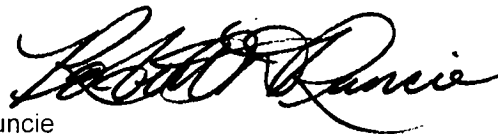
LSC REVIEW: LSC approval is not applicable to this report.

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

FINANCIAL: None.

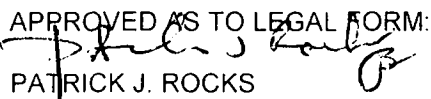
GENERAL CONDITIONS: None.

APPROVED:




Robert W. Runcie
Chief Administrative Officer

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

HR

PATRICK J. ROCKS
General Counsel

WITHIN APPROPRIATION:


CHRISTINA HERZOG
Acting Chief Financial Officer