



CITY OF NEW YORK CONFLICTS OF INTEREST BOARD

2 Lafayette Street, Suite 1010

New York, New York 10007

(212) 442-1400

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Richard Briffault
Chair

August 20, 2014

Fernando Bohorquez
Board Member

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

Anthony Crowell
Board Member

Harriet Richardson

Andrew Irving
Board Member

Re: COIB Case No. 2014-289

Erika Thomas-Yuille
Board Member

Dear Ms. Richardson:

Mark Davies
Executive Director

The New York City Conflicts of Interest Board (the "Board") is issuing this letter to you in connection with the loan you requested and received from the parent of a student you supervised in your capacity as a City employee. You have agreed to make this letter public in order to provide guidance to others faced with similar situations.

Wayne G. Hawley
*Deputy Executive Director
& General Counsel*

From May 19, 1986, until June 12, 2014, you were employed by the New York City Department of Education ("DOE") as a School Aide, most recently at P.S. 80 in Queens. As part of your duties during the 2012-2013 school year, you supervised children at P.S. 80 during their lunch periods. On multiple occasions during May and June 2013, you called the parent of one of the students you supervised at lunch and asked her to loan you \$500 in cash. The parent agreed to loan you \$500, and you repaid the money in full in January 2014.

Carolyn Lisa Miller
Director of Enforcement

Julia Davis
*Special Counsel &
Director of Annual
Disclosure*

Alex Kipp
*Director of Training &
Education*

By asking for and receiving a loan from the mother of a student you supervised, you violated Section 2604(b)(3) of Chapter 68. Among other things, this Section prohibits a City employee from using or attempting to use her position to obtain any "financial gain" for herself.¹

Varuni Bhagwant
*Director of
Administration*

Derick Yu
*Director of Information
Technology*

The Conflicts of Interest Board has concluded that no further enforcement action is required in this matter. It is issuing this public warning letter to provide guidance to other public servants in similar situations. This letter should be regarded as a formal reminder of the importance of strict compliance with the City's conflicts of interest law, contained in Chapter 68

¹ City Charter § 2604(b)(3) states: "No public servant shall use or attempt to use his or her position as a public servant to obtain any financial gain, contract, license, privilege or other private or personal advantage, direct or indirect, for the public servant or any person or firm associated with the public servant."

of the City Charter and the Board Rules. Precise compliance with these provisions avoids even the appearance of impropriety and helps strengthen public confidence in City officials.

In the future, if you have any questions concerning the conflicts of interest law, please contact the Board Staff at (212) 442-1400. With the issuance of this letter, the Board is closing this case.

Very truly yours,



Richard Briffault
Chair

I hereby waive any right I may have to confidentiality and agree that the Board may make this document public. I represent that I have entered into this agreement freely, knowingly, and intentionally without coercion or duress and that I have had a full opportunity to consult with counsel of my choice.

Harriet Richardson July-28-14
HARRIET RICHARDSON Date