



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**

Ashwin Vasan, MD, PhD
Commissioner

May 20, 2024

**Gotham Center
42-09 28th Street, 8th Floor
Queens, NY 11101-4132**

+ 1 347 396 4111 tel

Ethan Carrier, Esq.
General Counsel
New York City Conflicts of Interest Board
2 Lafayette Street, Suite 1010
New York, NY 10007

Re: §1-13(e)(1) Designation for Audrie King to the Board of National Coalition of
STD Directors

Dear Mr. Carrier:

Pursuant to Rule §1-13(e)(1) of the Conflicts of Interest Board, I, as Commissioner of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (“DOHMH”), hereby designate Audrie King, in her official capacity as Director of Sexually Transmitted Infections (“STI”) Policy in the Bureau of Hepatitis, HIV, and STI (“BHHS”), to serve as a member of the Board of the National Coalition of STD Directors (“NCSD”), to assist in developing and sharing information regarding STIs with other health departments across the country.

NCSD is a national public health membership organization representing health department STI directors, their support staff, and community-based partners across fifty states, seven large cities, and five U.S. territories. NCSD’s mission is to advance equitable, effective STI prevention programs and services in communities across the country. NCSD provides their members with technical assistance and training; develops and shares informational resources; and facilitates peer learning and support. The organization educates policy makers, public health professionals, organizational allies, and the general public about why STIs are a public health priority and what is needed to address them most effectively.

DOHMH prioritizes the sexual health and well-being of New Yorkers. The Agency’s sexual health programming and services ensure that all New Yorkers have access to high-quality, affirming services and proven prevention and treatment interventions. DOHMH continues to expand its Sexual Health Clinics, which offer low- to no-cost STI testing and treatment, including universal HIV testing, PrEP and emergency PEP, and HIV treatment. As such, this Agency has a strong interest in

promoting routine STI testing and finding strategies to keep STI rates down, especially for young people and Black and Latinx communities.

Ms. King's duties are directly connected to this mission. As Director of STI Policy, Ms. King monitors and responds to local, state, and federal legislation, regulations, policies, and funding streams related to STIs; responds to STI and LGBTQ+ health-related policy inquiries from Agency staff and external stakeholders, including government officials, in the form of policy briefs, reports, presentations, literature reviews, and grant deliverables; and serves as a strategic advisor to the BHHS Director of Policy and External Affairs, BHHS Assistant Commissioner, Bureau of Public Health Clinics, and Division of Disease Control regarding STI and LGBTQ health-related policy matters and funding streams.

Ms. King's work as Chair on the Board of Directors for NCSD compliments her City role as STI Policy Director for BHHS. Being involved with NCSD allows Ms. King to connect with other STI professionals across the country, thus networking, brainstorming, and learning from one another about STI trends nationwide, therefore providing New York City the tools to continue preventing and treating STIs.

Excluding annual membership dues and fees, the City does not have business dealings with NCSD. Furthermore, I am advised that Ms. King does not anticipate or foresee any conflicts between her responsibilities at DOHMH and involvement with NCSD's Board. The Board meets monthly. Ms. King anticipates spending approximately ten hours a month fulfilling her NCSD Board duties.

Based on the foregoing, I have concluded that, pursuant to Rule §1-13(e)(1), (i) there is a demonstrated nexus between the proposed work with NCSD, Ms. King's City job, and the mission of BHHS; (ii) such work furthers this Agency's mission and is not undertaken primarily for the benefit or interests of NCSD; and (iii) Ms. King takes no part in NCSD's business dealings with the City or DOHMH. I support Ms. King serving in this role, subject to any required stipulations and/or recusals on her part. I also request that Ms. King be allowed the reasonable and incidental use of City time, equipment, supplies, and resources for her participation with NCSD as part of her City duties.

Thank you for your attention to and consideration of this matter. If you have any questions, please call Karrie Ann Sheridan, Deputy Director of the Employment Law Unit at (347) 396-6015.

Sincerely,



Ashwin Vasan, MD, PhD
Commissioner

AS/kas
Coiwaiver24.ak

cc: Karrie Sheridan



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**

Ashwin Vasani, MD, PhD
Commissioner

May 14, 2024

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Ethan Carrier, Esq.
General Counsel
New York City Conflicts of Interest Board
2 Lafayette Street, Suite 1010
New York, NY 10007

Re: §1-13(e)(1) Designation for Maia Fitzstevens to the Board of WE ACT for
Environmental Justice

Dear Mr. Carrier:

Pursuant to Rule §1-13(e)(1) of the Conflicts of Interest Board, I, as Commissioner of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (“DOHMH”), hereby designate Maia Fitzstevens, in her official capacity as Environmental Health Scientist in the Bureau of Environmental Disease and Injury Prevention, to serve as a member of the Beauty Inside Out Campaign Advisory Board of WE ACT for Environmental Justice (“WE ACT”), to assist in preventing and reducing exposure to hazardous ingredients in skin care products, especially in low-income communities and communities of color.

WE ACT’s mission is to build healthy communities by ensuring that people of color and/or low-income residents participate meaningfully in the creation of sound and fair environmental health and protection policies and practices. WE ACT envisions a community with strong and equal environmental protections, increased environmental health through community-based participatory research and evidence-based campaigns, and informed and engaged residents who participate fully in decision-making on key issues that impact their health and community. The Beauty Inside Out Campaign is WE ACT’s multi-year effort to address: (i) toxic chemicals in personal care and beauty products, particularly those marketed to people of color; and (ii) racism, systemic oppression, and societal harms perpetuated by Eurocentric beauty standards, targeted marketing, and social conditioning of harmful beauty norms.

DOHMH works to protect and promote the health of New Yorkers. The mission of the Bureau of Environmental Disease and Injury Prevention is to prevent environmental disease and injury in homes, communities, and the workplace, and to protect health by promoting healthy environments and health equity. Ms. Fitzstevens' unit, the Risk Assessment Unit, oversees the Bureau's community investigations of contaminated consumer products. As such, the environmental health and health equity goals of WE ACT and DOHMH are in alignment.

Furthermore, Ms. Fitzstevens' duties and goals are directly connected to this mission. As an Environmental Health Scientist, she conducts surveys to identify lead and other heavy metal contaminated consumer products on NYC store shelves and coordinate enforcement on hazardous products. Ms. Fitzstevens also develops methods for rapid screening of mercury-contaminated skin lightening products and works with over ten years of DOHMH data from continuous surveillance and product testing. There is much overlap between WE ACT's goals to prevent and reduce exposure to hazardous ingredients in skin care products and the Risk Assessment Unit's actions on skin lightening products.

WE ACT does not engage in business dealings with the City. Therefore, I am advised that Ms. Fitzstevens does not anticipate or foresee any conflicts between her day-to-day responsibilities at DOHMH and involvement with WE ACT's Board. The Board meets bimonthly. Ms. Fitzstevens anticipates spending approximately two hours a month fulfilling her WE ACT Board duties.

Based on the foregoing, I have concluded that, pursuant to Rule §1-13(e)(1), (i) there is a demonstrated nexus between the proposed work with WE ACT, Ms. Fitzstevens' City job, and the mission of the Bureau of Environmental Disease and Injury Prevention; (ii) such work furthers this Agency's mission and is not undertaken primarily for the benefit or interests of the not-for-profit; and (iii) Ms. Fitzstevens will take no part in any of WE ACT's potential business dealings with the City or DOHMH. I support Ms. Fitzstevens serving in this role, subject to any required stipulations and/or recusals on her part. I also request that Ms. Fitzstevens be allowed the reasonable and incidental use of City time, equipment, supplies, and resources for her participation with WE ACT as part of her City duties.

Thank you for your attention to and consideration of this matter. If you have any questions, please call Karrie Ann Sheridan, Deputy Director of the Employment Law Unit at (347) 396-6015.

Sincerely,



Ashwin Vasan, MD, PhD
Commissioner

AS/kas
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cc: Karrie Sheridan



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**

Ashwin Vasani, MD, PhD
Commissioner

May 20, 2024

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Ethan Carrier, Esq.
General Counsel
New York City Conflicts of Interest Board
2 Lafayette Street, Suite 1010
New York, NY 10007

Re: §1-13(e)(1) Designation for Ilish Neely to the Board of CityMatCH

Dear Mr. Carrier:

Pursuant to the Conflicts of Interest Board Rule §1-13(e)(1), I, as Commissioner of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (“DOHMH”), hereby designate Ilish Neely, in her official capacity as Women’s Health Suite Site Coordinator in the Bureau of Bronx Neighborhood Health, Center for Health Equity and Community Wellness (CHECW), to serve as a member of the Board of CityMatCH, to assist in the dissemination of knowledge, issues, and solutions regarding maternal and child health.

CityMatCH is a national membership organization of the maternal and child health programs of the city and county health departments’ leaders representing urban communities in the United States. CityMatCH’s mission is to strengthen public health leaders and organizations to promote equity and improve the health of urban women, families, and communities. The organization creates awareness amongst a variety of both traditional and non-traditional maternal health-based topics. CityMatCH produces helpful solutions through software suggestions, national workgroups, leadership trainings, “lunch & learns,” and more.

DOHMH’s mission to promote health equity includes a comprehensive approach to improving maternal and infant health outcomes. This goal is carried out through community-based initiatives that increase residents’ knowledge and influence behaviors to improve maternal and infant health outcomes throughout New York City.

This is exemplified through DOHMH's CHECW and Sexual and Reproductive Health Unit, as well as the Agency's initiatives, including the Newborn Home Visiting Program and the maternal Health Quality Improvement Network Initiative. As such, this Agency has a strong interest in collaborating with local, state, and national health departments to gain knowledge on current maternal and child health trends and solutions.

As Women's Health Suite Site Coordinator, Ms. Neely builds new and strengthens existing community partnerships. She provides oversight of Family Wellness Suite programming in the Bronx and offers guidance to the Brooklyn and Harlem locations, as well as collaborates with internal, community, and governmental partners to engage in coalition-building activities to achieve a collective impact on racial disparities in maternal and infant birth outcomes.

Ms. Neely's duties are directly connected to this mission. Her participation on the Board ensures that DOHMH remains on the pulse of current best public health practices and emerging public health trends.

CityMatCH does not engage in business dealings with the City. Therefore, I am advised that Ms. Neely does not anticipate or foresee any conflicts between her day-to-day responsibilities at DOHMH and involvement with CityMatCH's Board. The Board meets monthly. Ms. Neely anticipates spending two hours a month fulfilling her CityMatCH Board duties.

Based on the foregoing, I have concluded that, pursuant to Rule §1-13(e)(1), (i) there is a demonstrated nexus between the proposed work with CityMatCH, Ms. Neely's City job, and the mission of CHECW; (ii) such work furthers this Agency's mission and is not undertaken primarily for the benefit or interests of the not-for-profit; and (iii) Ms. Neely will take no part in any of CityMatCH's potential business dealings with the City or DOHMH. I support Ms. Neely serving in this role, subject to any required stipulations and/or recusals on her part. I also request that Ms. Neely be allowed the reasonable and incidental use of City time, equipment, supplies, and resources for her participation with CityMatCH as part of her City duties.

Thank you for your attention to and consideration of this matter. If you have any questions, please call Karrie Ann Sheridan, Deputy Director of the Employment Law Unit at (347) 396-6015.

Sincerely,



Ashwin Vasan, MD, PhD
Commissioner

AS/kas
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cc: Karrie Sheridan



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**

Ashwin Vasani, MD, PhD
Commissioner

May 20, 2024

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Ethan Carrier, Esq.
General Counsel
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2 Lafayette Street, Suite 1010
New York, NY 10007

Re: §1-13(e)(1) Designation for Regina Zimmerman to the Board of the Bronx RHIO

Dear Mr. Carrier:

Pursuant to Rule §1-13(e)(1) of the Conflicts of Interest Board, I, as Commissioner of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (“DOHMH”), hereby designate Regina Zimmerman, in her official capacity as Senior Director of Data Governance and Informatics Unit (“DGI”) in the Bureau of Epidemiology Services, to serve as a member of the Board of the Bronx Regional Health Information Organization (“Bronx RHIO”), to assist in the efficient use of administrative health data to enhance patient safety and public health activities.

Bronx RHIO is a clinical information exchange established by the borough’s leading healthcare organizations, including hospitals, health systems, individual physician offices, home care, and more. The non-profit participates in the Statewide Health Information Network for New York (“SHIN-NY”), which enables statewide sharing of data. Bronx RHIO’s mission is to build a secure, interoperable health information exchange that will enable patients’ medical records to follow them wherever they go for health services in the Bronx. This transforms healthcare delivery in the Bronx to a patient-centered, rational, cost-effective system. Patients and clinicians will have vital health information when and where it is needed, enabling significant improvements in patient safety, health outcomes, and practice efficiencies.

DOHMH accesses and uses Bronx RHIO data for public health activities and periodically participates in projects that support the efficient and improved use of data. Specifically, DGI governs the use of these data for and with DOHMH, providing data users policies and resources to support user ability and track access as required. As such, this Agency has a strong interest in promoting a cost-effective clinical information exchange to enhance patient safety and efficiency.

Ms. Zimmerman's duties are directly connected to the Agency's mission. As Senior Director of DGI, she oversees the data governance of administrative health data received under legal agreements from the New York State Department of Health (e.g., Medicaid and hospital discharge), and electronic health record data received under partnership agreements from Regional Health Information Organizations. Additionally, Ms. Zimmerman oversees the Unit's coordination of operations; maintains compliance with NYC Open Data Local Law 11; upholds the department-wide Data Catalog¹; serves on the Data Modernization Initiative Core team; and coordinates the Agency's centralized data governance framework, including the acquisition and implementation of an Enterprise Data Catalog². As a board member of Bronx RHIO, Ms. Zimmerman advocates for the improved and efficient use of administrative health data and understanding how the non-profit can serve DOHMH to be more efficient in its public health activities.

Although Bronx RHIO has business dealings with DOHMH, Ms. Zimmerman does not participate in the funding or other fiduciary decisions related to these contracts. Furthermore, I have been advised that Ms. Zimmerman does not anticipate or foresee any conflicts between her day-to-day responsibilities at DOHMH and involvement with Bronx RHIO's Board. The Board meets bimonthly. Ms. Zimmerman anticipates spending one-to-two hours a month fulfilling her Bronx RHIO Board duties.

Based on the foregoing, I have concluded that, pursuant to Rule §1-13(e)(1), (i) there is a demonstrated nexus between the proposed work with Bronx RHIO, Ms. Zimmerman's City job, and the mission of DGI; (ii) such work furthers this agency's mission and is not undertaken primarily for the benefit or interests of the Bronx RHIO; and (iii) Ms. Zimmerman takes no part in Bronx RHIO's business dealings with the City or DOHMH. I support Ms. Zimmerman serving in this role, subject to any required stipulations and/or recusals on her part. I also request that Ms. Zimmerman be allowed the reasonable and incidental use of City time, equipment, supplies, and resources for her participation with Bronx RHIO as part of her City duties.

Thank you for your attention to and consideration of this matter. If you have any questions, please call Karrie Ann Sheridan, Deputy Director of the Employment Law Unit at (347) 396-6015.

Sincerely,



Ashwin Vasani, MD, PhD
Commissioner

AS/kas
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cc: Karrie Sheridan



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**

Ashwin Vasani, MD, PhD
Commissioner

May 20, 2024

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Ethan Carrier, Esq.
General Counsel
New York City Conflicts of Interest Board
2 Lafayette Street, Suite 1010
New York, NY 10007

Re: §1-13(e)(1) Designation for Maura Kennelly to the Board of the New York
State Association of County Health Officials

Dear Mr. Carrier:

Pursuant to Rule §1-13(e)(1) of the Conflicts of Interest Board, I, as Commissioner of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (“DOHMH”), hereby designate Maura Kennelly, in her official capacity as Deputy Commissioner of External Affairs, to serve as a member of the Board of the New York State Association of County Health Officials (“NYSACHO”), to assist in protecting and promoting the health of New Yorkers by connecting with other local health departments in New York State.

NYSACHO is a membership association of the fifty-eight local health departments in New York State. NYSACHO supports, advocates for, and empowers local health departments in their work to promote health and wellness and prevent disease, disability, and injury throughout New York State. They advocate for local public health professionals, seeking to keep health services a priority in New York State’s budget decisions and supporting media outreach for public education. The association is recognized as the collective voice leading policy, education, and advocacy to create healthy, safe communities in New York State. NYSACHO provides many public health resources in support of their member departments on their website.

As the State’s largest local health department, DOHMH plays a vital role in this mission. The Office of External Affairs (OEA) is comprised of the government and community affairs, marketing, publications, public affairs, and other units.

OEA communicates with City Hall, city agencies, elected officials, and other external stakeholders about DOHMH's priorities and projects. OEA has a strong interest in advocating for and promoting the Agency's wide range of initiatives and accomplishments, as well as sharing the Agency's goals for the future. Similarly, NYSACHO is a key advocacy partner for the shared goals and priorities with other local health departments.

Ms. Kennelly's duties are directly connected to this mission. Over the course of her tenure, Ms. Kennelly has worked closely with NYSACHO on advocacy efforts for the Agency's priorities in Albany and Washington, D.C. As such, NYSACHO's role as an advocacy partner for local health departments dovetails with Ms. Kennelly's job as Deputy Commissioner of External Affairs. She represents DOHMH on the Board, and thus relays key information on shared interests with the Commissioner and other senior leaders.

NYSACHO does not have business dealings with the City. Therefore, I am advised that Ms. Kennelly does not anticipate or foresee any conflicts between her day-to-day responsibilities at DOHMH and involvement with NYSACHO's Board. The Board meets once a month. Ms. Kennelly anticipates spending approximately five-to-ten hours a month fulfilling her NYSACHO Board duties.

Based on the foregoing, I have concluded that, pursuant to Rule §1-13(e)(1), (i) there is a demonstrated nexus between the proposed work with NYSACHO, Ms. Kennelly's City job, and the mission of the Office of External Affairs; (ii) such work furthers this Agency's mission and is not undertaken primarily for the benefit or interests of the not-for-profit; and (iii) Ms. Kennelly will take no part in NYSACHO's potential business dealings with the City or DOHMH. I support Ms. Kennelly serving in this role, subject to any required stipulations and/or recusals on her part. I also request that Ms. Kennelly be allowed the reasonable and incidental use of City time, equipment, supplies, and resources for her participation with NYSACHO as part of her City duties.

Thank you for your attention to and consideration of this matter. If you have any questions, please call Karrie Ann Sheridan, Deputy Director of the Employment Law Unit at (347) 396-6015.

Sincerely,



Ashwin Vasan, MD, PhD
Commissioner

AS/kas
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cc: Karrie Sheridan



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**

Ashwin Vasan, MD, PhD
Commissioner

July 30, 2024

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Ethan Carrier, Esq.
General Counsel
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New York, NY 10007

Re: COIB Rules §1-13(e)(1) Designation for Gretchen Van Wye, Ph.D. to the Board of the National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems

Dear Mr. Carrier:

Pursuant to Rule §1.13(e) of the Conflicts of Interest Board, I, as Commissioner of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (“DOHMH”), hereby designate Dr. Gretchen Van Wye, in her official capacity as Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau of Vital Statistics (“BVS”), to serve as a member of the Board of the National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems (“NAPHSIS”). Dr. Van Wye will assist in communicating vital records and public health statistics from the national level to the City.

NAPHSIS is the national nonprofit organization representing the state vital records and public health statistics offices in the United States. Members pay dues to NAPHSIS and it advocates for the interests of the fifty-seven vital records/statistics jurisdictions in the country, to the federal government and to each other. NAPHSIS is one of the three pillars of the National Vital Statistics System, which make it possible for the country to calculate national estimates of leading causes of death, life expectancy, birth outcomes, and more. NAPHSIS maintains the computer system used to exchange data between New York City and the CDC’s National Center for Health Statistics.

BVS is responsible for the registration, amendment, analysis, and reporting of all vital events in NYC, including births, deaths, and terminations of pregnancy. All vital events are required by law to be reported to DOHMH if they occur in or enroute to NYC, regardless of individual residency status. As such, this Agency has

a strong interest in collaborating with researchers and community members to understand and promote the health of New Yorkers. Since the early 1900s, the work of NYC, NAPHSIS, and the federal government are intertwined.

Dr. Van Wye's duties are directly connected to this mission. As Assistant Commissioner of BVS, she oversees the approximately one million vital records issued by BVS each year. As a board member on NAPHSIS, she represents the interests of NYC to ensure high quality data, processes, and systems at the national level. She communicates information from the national level to the City, thus strengthening NYC's position as a vital records jurisdiction nationally.

DOHMH and NAPHSIS are not engaged in business dealings except for the payment of membership dues to NAPHSIS and payment for use of the State and Territorial Exchange of Vital Events system (STEVE) that provides vital records data quickly and ensuring the security and privacy of the data during transmission to critical data partners including the CDC, the National Vital Statistics System, other vital records jurisdictions, and authorized public health and administrative programs. Dr. Van Wye is not involved with this at DOHMH nor at NAPHSIS. Furthermore, I am advised that Dr. Van Wye does not anticipate or foresee any conflicts between her responsibilities at DOHMH and position on NAPHSIS's Board. The Board meets monthly or bimonthly. Dr. Van Wye anticipates spending two-to-ten hours a month fulfilling her NAPHSIS Board duties.

Based on the foregoing, I have concluded that, pursuant to Rule §1.13(e), (i) there is a demonstrated nexus between the proposed work with NAPHSIS, Dr. Van Wye's City job, and the mission of BVS; (ii) that such work furthers this Agency's mission; and (iii) that the proposed work is not undertaken primarily for the benefit or interests of the not-for-profit. I support Dr. Van Wye serving in this role, subject to any required stipulations and/or recusals on her part. I also request that Dr. Van Wye be allowed the reasonable and incidental use of City time, equipment, supplies, and resources for her participation with NAPHSIS as part of her City duties.

Thank you for your attention to and consideration of this matter. If you have any questions, please call Karrie Ann Sheridan, Deputy Director of the Employment Law Unit at (347) 396-6015.

Sincerely,



Ashwin Vasan, MD, PhD
Commissioner

AS/kas
Coiwaiver24.gvw

cc: Karrie Sheridan



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**

Ashwin Vasan, MD, PhD
Commissioner

September 16, 2024

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Ethan Carrier, Esq.
General Counsel
New York City Conflicts of Interest Board
2 Lafayette Street, Suite 1010
New York, NY 10007

Re: COIB Rules §1-13(e)(1) Designation for Joseph Burzynski, M.D.
to the Board of the National Tuberculosis Controllers Association

Dear Mr. Carrier:

Pursuant to Rule §1.13(e)(1) of the Conflicts of Interest Board, I, as Commissioner of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (“DOHMH”), hereby designate Dr. Joseph Burzynski, in his official capacity as Assistant Commissioner in the Bureau of Tuberculosis, to serve as President of the National Tuberculosis Controllers Association (“NTCA”), to assist in advocating for Tuberculosis control and elimination of the disease in New York City.

NTCA is an organization that provides an opportunity for representatives of Tuberculosis (“TB”) control programs across the United States to share information and ideas on how to meet the demands of TB control. Their mission is to protect the public’s health by advancing the elimination of TB in the country through the concerted action of state, local, and territorial programs. NTCA’s goals include: (i) developing and providing a collective voice for TB Controllers to advance and advocate TB control and elimination activities in the country; (ii) counseling agencies, organizations, committees, and task forces on issues and actions affecting TB control and elimination at state, local, and territorial levels; (iii) supporting agencies and organizations in efforts beneficial to the advancement of TB control and elimination at state, local, and territorial levels; and (iv) advocating for positions, policies, laws, and means to advance TB control and elimination at state, local, and territorial levels.

DOHMH aims to prevent the transmission of TB and eliminate it as a public health problem in New York City. The Bureau of Tuberculosis' goals are to (i) identify all people with suspected or confirmed TB disease and ensure their appropriate treatment and (ii) ensure that people at high risk for progression from latent TB infection to TB disease complete treatment and do not develop the disease. As such, this Agency has a strong interest in collaborating with health care providers, laboratories, community partners, and associations to ensure effective TB care and prevention in New York City through an integrated, dynamic model of core activities and services.

Dr. Burzynski's duties are directly connected to this mission. As Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau of Tuberculosis, he conducts agencywide and citywide efforts to coordinate access to testing, medical evaluation, and treatment of TB. Dr. Burzynski oversees novel approaches to increase the decline of TB rates, engages all parts of the healthcare system, and encourages partnership with the communities DOHMH serves.

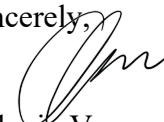
The issues that are discussed by NTCA are closely aligned with the issues facing the Bureau of Tuberculosis. Dr. Burzynski shares information from discussions of this national group with office directors in the Bureau of Tuberculosis who are doing similar work as colleagues around the country. Through the work of this organization, Dr. Burzynski is able to gain an understanding of best practices for data sharing and communication between jurisdictions. He is able to maintain awareness of changes in practice that are being implemented in other parts of the U.S. For example, the organization recently had discussions on ways to avoid drug shortages – a chronic issue in TB control.

NTCA is currently engaged in business dealings with DOHMH concerning annual membership fees and registration fees for the annual NTCA conference. Dr. Burzynski is not involved with these matters. I am advised that Dr. Burzynski does not anticipate or foresee any conflicts between his day-to-day responsibilities at DOHMH and involvement with NTCA's Board. The Board meets once a month. Dr. Burzynski anticipates spending approximately four to five hours a month fulfilling his NTCA Board duties.

Based on the foregoing, I have concluded that, pursuant to Rule §1.13(e), (i) there is a demonstrated nexus between the proposed work with NTCA, Dr. Burzynski's City job, and the mission of the Bureau of Tuberculosis; (ii) that such work furthers this Agency's mission; and (iii) that the proposed work is not undertaken primarily for the benefit or interests of the not-for-profit. I support Dr. Burzynski serving in this role, subject to any required stipulations and/or recusals on his part. I also request that Dr. Burzynski be allowed the reasonable and incidental use of City time, equipment, supplies, and resources for his participation with NTCA as part of her City duties.

Thank you for your attention to and consideration of this matter. If you have any questions, please call Karrie Ann Sheridan, Deputy Director of the Employment Law Unit at (347) 396-6015.

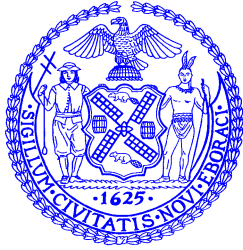
Sincerely,



Ashwin Vasan, MD, PhD
Commissioner

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CoiDesig24.jb

cc: Karrie Ann Sheridan



CITY OF NEW YORK CONFLICTS OF INTEREST BOARD

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www.nyc.gov/ethics

January 21, 2025

Acting Commissioner Michelle Morse
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Gotham Center
42-09 28th Street, 8th Floor
Queens, New York 11101

Re: Conflicts of Interest Board Case No. 2024-389 (Aaron Anderson)

Dear Acting Commissioner Morse:

This is in response to former Commissioner Ashwin Vasan's letter to the Conflicts of Interest Board (the "Board"), received June 5, 2024, and subsequent communications between your agency and Board staff, designating, pursuant to Board Rules Section 1-13(e)(1), New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene ("DOHMH") employee Aaron Anderson to use City time and City resources to perform work for the Fund for Public Health in New York City ("FPHNYC"). Former Commissioner Vasan also requested a determination by the Board, pursuant to Board Rules Section 1-13(e)(2), that Mr. Anderson may take part in FPHNYC's business dealings with the City.

Relevant Facts

You advise that at DOHMH Mr. Anderson is Chief Financial Officer and Deputy Commissioner for Finance in the Bureau of Finance Administration and Planning. Mr. Anderson is responsible for improving the effectiveness and impact of DOHMH programs and administrative operations by providing information and analysis, resources, fiscal integrity, performance and improvement measures, and technical assistance.

You further advise that former Commissioner Vasan designated Mr. Anderson to serve on the board of directors of FPHNYC. DOHMH established FPHNYC in 2002 as a not-for-profit organization to solicit, administer, and receive funds to assist DOHMH's efforts to improve health and mental hygiene in the City and to implement public health programs. The DOHMH Commissioner serves as President of FPHNYC, which due to its affiliation with DOHMH has registered as a not-for-profit affiliated with an elected official under Chapter 9 of Title 3 of the New York City Administrative Code. DOHMH and FPHNYC have a long-standing collaborative relationship in managing and operating grant-funded programs and in developing and implementing public health programs, and FPHNYC staff work out of DOHMH offices. As a board member, Mr. Anderson attends

quarterly board meetings and discusses and decides on shared DOHMH and FPHNYC programs; thus, he is involved in the business dealings between FPHNYC and the City.

By former Commissioner Vasan's letter to the Board, he approved of Mr. Anderson's work on behalf of FPHNYC as part his work for DOHMH and sought the Board's approval for his participation in business dealings between FPHNYC and the City.

Relevant Law

Charter Section 2604(b)(2), as interpreted in Board Rules Section 1-13, prohibits a public servant's use of City time or City resources for non-City purposes.

Board Rules Section 1-13(e) provides that a deputy mayor may designate an agency head to perform work on behalf of a not-for-profit corporation, association, or other such entity that operates on a not-for-profit basis, including serving as a board member or other position with fiduciary responsibilities, provided that: (i) there is a demonstrated nexus between the proposed activity, the public servant's City job, and the mission of the public servant's agency, and such work furthers the agency's mission and is not undertaken primarily for the benefit or interests of the not-for-profit; (ii) the designated public servant takes no part in the entity's business dealings with the City at the entity or at their agency; and (iii) within 30 days the written designation is disclosed to the Board and will be posted on the Board's website.

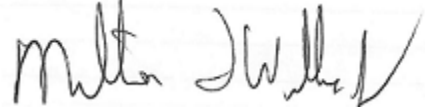
A public servant designated pursuant to Board Rules Section 1-13(e)(1) may take part in the entity's business dealings with the City at the entity and/or at their agency if, after written approval of the agency head, the Board determines that there is a demonstrated nexus between the proposed participation, the public servant's City job, and the mission of the public servant's agency; and that such participation furthers the agency's mission and is not undertaken primarily for the benefit or interests of the not-for-profit entity. See Board Rules Section 1-13(e)(2).

Advice

The Board has determined, based on the above representations and former Commissioner Vasan's written approval, that there is a demonstrated nexus between Mr. Anderson's work at DOHMH, his work for FPHNYC, and the mission of DOHMH. The Board has also determined that Mr. Anderson's participation in the business dealings between the City and FPHNYC furthers DOHMH's mission. Accordingly, Mr. Anderson may use City time and City resources to perform work for FPHNYC and may be involved in business dealings between FPHNYC and the City. See Board Rules Section 1-13(e)(2).

The advice conveyed in this letter is conditioned on the correctness and completeness of the facts supplied to us. If such facts are in any respect incorrect or incomplete, the advice we have given to you may not apply. If at any time you would like further advice based on a change of circumstances or additional information, please contact us.

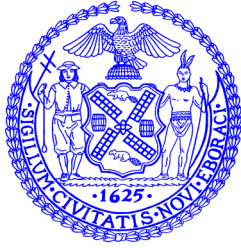
Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Milton L. Williams Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Milton L. Williams Jr.
Chair

cc: Wayne G. Hawley
Ifeoma Ike
Amy E. Millard
Georgia M. Pestana

Karrie Ann Sheridan
Aaron Anderson



CITY OF NEW YORK CONFLICTS OF INTEREST BOARD

2 Lafayette Street, Suite 1010
New York, New York 10007
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www.nyc.gov/ethics

January 21, 2025

Acting Commissioner Michelle Morse
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Gotham Center
42-09 28th Street, 8th Floor
Queens, New York 11101

Re: Conflicts of Interest Board Case No. 2024-390 (Corinne Schiff)

Dear Acting Commissioner Morse:

This is in response to former Commissioner Ashwin Vasan's letter to the Conflicts of Interest Board (the "Board"), received June 5, 2024, and subsequent communications between your agency and Board staff, designating, pursuant to Board Rules Section 1-13(e)(1), New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene ("DOHMH") employee Corinne Schiff to use City time and City resources to perform work for Animal Care Centers of NYC ("ACC"). Former Commissioner Vasan also requested a determination by the Board, pursuant to Board Rules Section 1-13(e)(2), that Ms. Schiff may take part in ACC's business dealings with the City.

Relevant Facts

You advise that at DOHMH Ms. Schiff is Deputy Commissioner for the Environmental Health Division. Ms. Schiff oversees animal handling permits, animal handling facility inspections, animal nuisance complaint investigations, and the monitoring of wildlife and domestic animals for diseases that may impact human health. She also oversees DOHMH contracts with ACC to operate animal shelters and provide animal control services in the City.

You further advise that the DOHMH Commissioner serves as an *ex-officio* member on the board of directors of ACC and that Ms. Schiff serves as the Commissioner's alternate. ACC is a not-for-profit organization created by the City in 1994 to operate animal shelters in City-owned facilities in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Staten Island and provides animal control services in the City. ACC also provides free spaying or neutering surgeries, a pet food pantry, surrender prevention counseling, vouchers for low-cost or free veterinary care, and low-cost or free pet supplies through donations and grants. ACC is governed by a thirteen-member board of directors; three directors serve *ex-officio*: the DOHMH Commissioner, the Commissioner of the New York City Department of Parks

and Recreation, and the Deputy Commissioner for Community Affairs of the New York City Police Department. ACC board members discuss and decide on ACC's business dealings with the City; thus, Ms. Schiff would be involved in the business dealings between ACC and the City.

By former Commissioner Vasan's letter to the Board, he approved Ms. Schiff's work on behalf of ACC as part of her work for DOHMH and sought the Board's approval for her participation in business dealings between ACC and the City.

Relevant Law

Charter Section 2604(b)(2), as interpreted in Board Rules Section 1-13, prohibits a public servant's use of City time or City resources for non-City purposes.

Board Rules Section 1-13(e) provides that a deputy mayor may designate an agency head to perform work on behalf of a not-for-profit corporation, association, or other such entity that operates on a not-for-profit basis, including serving as a board member or other position with fiduciary responsibilities, provided that: (i) there is a demonstrated nexus between the proposed activity, the public servant's City job, and the mission of the public servant's agency, and such work furthers the agency's mission and is not undertaken primarily for the benefit or interests of the not-for-profit; (ii) the designated public servant takes no part in the entity's business dealings with the City at the entity or at their agency; and (iii) within 30 days the written designation is disclosed to the Board and will be posted on the Board's website.

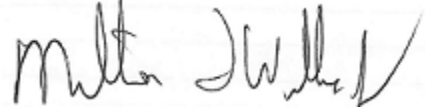
A public servant designated pursuant to Board Rules Section 1-13(e)(1) may take part in the entity's business dealings with the City at the entity and/or at their agency if, after written approval of the agency head, the Board determines that there is a demonstrated nexus between the proposed participation, the public servant's City job, and the mission of the public servant's agency; and that such participation furthers the agency's mission and is not undertaken primarily for the benefit or interests of the not-for-profit entity. See Board Rules Section 1-13(e)(2).

Advice

The Board has determined, based on the above representations and former Commissioner Vasan's written approval, that there is a demonstrated nexus between Ms. Schiff's work at DOHMH, her work for ACC, and the mission of DOHMH. The Board has also determined that Ms. Schiff's participation in the business dealings between the City and ACC furthers DOHMH's mission. Accordingly, Ms. Schiff may use City time and City resources to perform work for ACC and may be involved in business dealings between ACC and the City. See Board Rules Section 1-13(e)(2).

The advice conveyed in this letter is conditioned on the correctness and completeness of the facts supplied to us. If such facts are in any respect incorrect or incomplete, the advice we have given to you may not apply. If at any time you would like further advice based on a change of circumstances or additional information, please contact us.

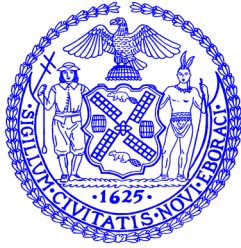
Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Milton L. Williams Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Milton L. Williams Jr.
Chair

cc: Wayne G. Hawley
Ifeoma Ike
Amy E. Millard
Georgia M. Pestana

Karrie Ann Sheridan
Corinne Schiff



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www.nyc.gov/ethics

January 21, 2025

Anne Williams-Isom
Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services
Office of the New York City Mayor
City Hall
New York, New York 10007

Re: Conflicts of Interest Board Case Nos. 2024-883 (Michelle Morse)

Dear Deputy Mayor Williams-Isom:

This is in response to your letter to the Conflicts of Interest Board (the "Board"), received December 12, 2024, and additional communications between the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene ("DOHMH") and Board staff, designating, pursuant to Board Rules Section 1-13(e)(1), DOHMH Acting Commissioner Michelle Morse to use City time and City resources to perform work for four not-for-profit organizations (collectively, the "Organizations"): the Fund for Public Health in New York City ("FPHNYC"), Animal Care Centers of NYC ("ACC"), Public Health Solutions ("PHS"), and the Greater New York Hospitals Association ("GNYHA"). You also request a determination by the Board, pursuant to Board Rules Section 1-13(e)(2), that Acting Commissioner Morse may take part in the business dealings of FPHNYC, ACC, and PHS with the City.

Relevant Facts

You advise that Acting Commissioner Morse oversees DOHMH's operations. DOHMH is responsible for protecting and promoting public health by offering health clinics to City residents, investigating and studying the health and disease conditions in the City, issuing birth certificates and dog licenses, and conducting restaurant inspections and enforcement

You further advise that Acting Commissioner Morse serves on the boards of:

The Fund for Public Health in New York City ("FPHNYC") is a not-for-profit organization created by DOHMH in 2002 to solicit, administer, and receive funds to assist DOHMH's efforts to improve health and mental hygiene in the City and to implement public health programs. The DOHMH Commissioner serves as President of FPHNYC, which due to its affiliation with DOHMH has registered as a not-for-profit affiliated with an elected official under Chapter 9 of Title 3 of the New York City Administrative Code.

DOHMH and FPHNYC have a long-standing collaborative relationship in managing and operating grant-funded programs and in developing and implementing public health programs, and FPHNYC staff work out of DOHMH offices. Acting Commissioner Morse attends quarterly board meetings and discusses and decides on shared DOHMH and FPHNYC programs; thus, she would be involved in the business dealings between FPHNYC and the City.

Animal Care Centers of NYC (“ACC”) is a not-for-profit organization created by the City in 1994 to end animal homelessness. ACC contracts with DOHMH to operate animal shelters in City-owned facilities in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Staten Island and provides control services to the City. ACC also provides free spaying or neutering surgeries, a pet food pantry, surrender prevention counseling, vouchers for low-cost or free veterinary care, and low-cost or free pet supplies through donations and grants. ACC is governed by a thirteen-member board of directors; three directors serve *ex-officio*: the DOHMH Commissioner, the Commissioner of the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Deputy Commissioner for Community Affairs of the New York City Police Department. ACC board members discuss and decide on ACC’s business dealings with the City; thus, Acting Commissioner Morse would be involved in the business dealings between FPHNYC and the City. DOHMH’s Deputy Commissioner for the Environmental Health Division Corinne Schiff has been designated to serve as the Commissioner’s alternate on the ACC board (COIB Case No. 2024-390).

Public Health Solutions (“PHS”), formerly the Medical and Health Research Association of New York City, is a not-for-profit founded by DOHMH approximately fifty years ago to facilitate the creation and administration of research projects and seek new research funding resources to support the work of DOHMH and other City-based organizations. DOHMH and PHS have a long-standing collaborative relationship in the management and operations of grant-funded public health programs. As an *ex-officio* board member, Acting Commissioner Morse attends quarterly board meetings and discusses and decide on PHS’s business dealings with the City; thus, she would be involved in the business dealings between FPHNYC and the City.

The Greater New York Hospitals Association (“GNYHA”) is a not-for-profit trade association for member hospitals, health systems, and care facilities in the New York metropolitan area and nearby states. New York City Health + Hospitals is a member of GNYHA. DOHMH is not a member of GNYHA, but GNYHA supports the mission of DOHMH of improving public health and healthcare delivery in the City. Acting Commissioner Morse expects to spend two to ten hours per month preparing for and attending board meetings; she will not be involved with Health + Hospitals business dealings with GNYHA, either at DOHMH or as a GNYHA board member.

By your letter to the Board, you approve of Acting Commissioner Morse’s work on behalf of the Organizations and her participation in the business dealings of FPHNYC, ACC, and PHS with the City.

Relevant Law

Charter Section 2604(b)(2), as interpreted in Board Rules Section 1-13, prohibits a public servant's use of City time or resources for non-City purposes.

Board Rules Section 1-13(e) provides that an agency head may designate a public servant to perform work on behalf of a not-for-profit corporation, association, or other such entity that operates on a not-for-profit basis, including serving as a board member or other position with fiduciary responsibilities, provided that: (i) there is a demonstrated nexus between the proposed activity, the public servant's City job, and the mission of the public servant's agency, and such work furthers the agency's mission and is not undertaken primarily for the benefit or interests of the not-for-profit; (ii) the designated public servant takes no part in the entity's business dealings with the City at the entity or at his or her agency; and (iii) within 30 days the written designation is disclosed to the Board and will be posted on the Board's website. See Board Rules Section 1-13(e)(1)(i).

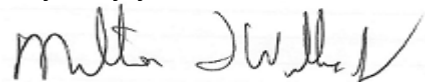
A public servant designated pursuant to Board Rules Section 1-13(e)(1) may take part in the entity's business dealings with the City at the entity and/or at his or her agency if, after written approval of the agency head, the Board determines that there is a demonstrated nexus between the proposed participation, the public servant's City job, and the mission of the public servant's agency; and that such participation furthers the agency's mission and is not undertaken primarily for the benefit or interests of the not-for-profit entity. See Board Rules Section 1-13(e)(2).

Advice

The Board has determined, based on the above representations and your written approval, that there is a demonstrated nexus between Acting Commissioner Morse's work at DOHMH, her work for the Organizations, and the mission of DOHMH. The Board has also determined that Acting Commissioner Morse's participation in the business dealings between the City and FPHNYC, ACC, and PHS, as described above, furthers DOHMH's mission. Accordingly, Acting Commissioner Morse may use City time and City resources to perform work for the Organizations and may be involved in business dealings between FPHNYC, ACC, and PHS and the City. See Board Rules Section 1-13(e)(2).

The advice conveyed in this letter is conditioned on the correctness and completeness of the facts supplied to us. If such facts are in any respect incorrect or incomplete, the advice we have given to you may not apply. If at any time you would like further advice based on a change of circumstances or additional information, please contact us.

Very truly yours,

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