

### The City of New York BUSINESS INTEGRITY COMMISSION

100 Church Street · 20th Floor New York · New York 10007 Tel. (212) 437-0500

# DECISION OF THE BUSINESS INTEGRITY COMMISSION DENYING THE REGISTRATION APPLICATION OF J COFFEY CONTRACTING INC. (BIC #489545) TO OPERATE AS A TRADE WASTE BUSINESS

#### I. Introduction

On March 4, 2016, J Coffey Contracting Inc. (the "Applicant" or "J Coffey") (BIC #489545) applied to the New York City Business Integrity Commission for an exemption from the Commission's trade waste licensing requirements "to operate a trade waste business solely engaged in the removal of waste materials resulting from building demolition, construction, alteration or excavation." Local Law 42 of 1996 ("Local Law 42") authorizes the Commission to review and make determinations on such exemption applications. *See* Title 16-A, New York City Administrative Code ("Administrative Code" or "Admin. Code") § 16-505(b).

On March 1, 2017, the Commission staff issued and personally served the Applicant with the Notice to the Applicant of the Grounds to Deny the Registration Application of J Coffey Contracting Inc. to Operate as a Trade Waste business (the "Notice of Denial"). The Applicant had 10 business days to respond, which period expired on March 14, 2017. See Title 17 Rules of the City of New York ("RCNY") § 2-08(a). The Applicant did not submit a response to the Notice of Denial. The Commission has completed its review of the registration application, having carefully considered the Notice of Denial and the Applicant's lack of response. Based on the record as to the Applicant, the Commission denies the Applicant's registration application based on the following five independently sufficient grounds:

- 1. John and Jennifer Coffey were principals of a predecessor trade waste business for which the Commission would be authorized to deny a license;
- 2. The Applicant's principal testified falsely during his sworn interview;
- 3. The Applicant's related entities and its principals have failed to pay taxes and other obligations for which judgments have been entered;
- 4. The Applicant and related entities have repeatedly engaged in unregistered trade waste removal activity; and
- 5. The Applicant has knowingly failed to provide information and documentation required by the Commission.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Trade waste" or "waste" is defined at Title 16-A of the New York City Administrative Code § 16-501(f)(1).

#### II. Statutory Framework

Every commercial business establishment in New York City must contract with a private carting company to remove and dispose of the waste it generates, known as trade waste. Historically, the private carting industry in the City was operated as a cartel controlled by organized crime. As evidenced by numerous criminal prosecutions, the industry was plagued by pervasive racketeering, anticompetitive practices and other corruption. See, e.g., United States v. Int'l Brotherhood of Teamsters (Adelstein), 998 F.2d 120 (2d Cir. 1993); People v. Ass'n of Trade Waste Removers of Greater New York Inc., Indictment No. 5614/95 (Sup. Ct. N.Y. Cty.); United States v. Mario Gigante, No. 96 Cr. 466 (S.D.N.Y.); People v. Ass'n of Trade Waste Removers of Greater New York, 701 N.Y.S.2d 12 (1st Dep't 1999). The construction and demolition debris removal sector of the City's carting industry specifically has also been the subject of significant successful racketeering prosecutions. See United States v. Paccione, 949 F.2d 1183, 1186-88 (2d Cir. 1991), cert. denied, 505 U.S. 1220 (1992); United States v. Cafra, No. 94 Cr. 380 (S.D.N.Y.); United States v. Barbieri, No. 94 Cr. 518 (S.D.N.Y.).

The Commission is charged with, among other things, combating the influence of organized crime and preventing its return to the City's private carting industry, including the construction and demolition debris removal industry. Instrumental to this core mission is the licensing scheme set forth in Local Law 42, which created the Commission and granted it the power and duty to license and regulate the trade waste removal industry in New York City. See Admin. Code § 16-505(a). This regulatory framework continues to be the primary means of ensuring that an industry once overrun by corruption remains free from organized crime and other criminality, and that commercial businesses that use private carters can be ensured of a fair, competitive market.

Pursuant to Local Law 42, a company "solely engaged in the removal of waste materials resulting from building demolition, construction, alteration or excavation," also known as construction and demolition debris, must apply to the Commission for an exemption from the licensing requirement. *Id.* If, upon review of an application, the Commission grants an exemption from the licensing requirement, it issues the applicant a class 2 registration. *Id.* at § 16-505(a)-(b). Before issuing such registration, the Commission must evaluate the "good character, honesty and integrity of the applicant." *Id.* at § 16-508(b); *see also id.* at § 16-504(a). An "applicant" for a license or registration means both the business entity and each principal thereof. *Id.* at § 16-501(a).

The Administrative Code provides an illustrative list of relevant factors for the Commission to consider in making a decision on an application for a license or registration:

- 1. failure by such applicant to provide truthful information in connection with the application;
- 2. a pending indictment or criminal action against such applicant for a crime which under this subdivision would provide a basis for the refusal of such license, or a pending civil or administrative action to which such applicant is a party and which directly relates to the fitness to conduct the business or perform the work for which the license is sought, in which cases the commission

may defer consideration of an application until a decision has been reached by the court or administrative tribunal before which such action is pending;

- 3. conviction of such applicant for a crime which, considering the factors set forth in section seven hundred fifty-three of the correction law, would provide a basis under such law for the refusal of such license;
- 4. a finding of liability in a civil or administrative action that bears a direct relationship to the fitness of the applicant to conduct the business for which the license is sought;
- 5. commission of a racketeering activity or knowing association with a person who has been convicted of a racketeering activity, including but not limited to the offenses listed in subdivision one of section nineteen hundred sixty-one of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations statute (18 U.S.C. § 1961 *et seq.*) or of an offense listed in subdivision one of section 460.10 of the penal law, as such statutes may be amended from time to time, or the equivalent offense under the laws of any other jurisdiction;
- 6. association with any member or associate of an organized crime group as identified by a federal, state or city law enforcement or investigative agency when the applicant knew or should have known of the organized crime associations of such person;
- 7. having been a principal in a predecessor trade waste business as such term is defined in subdivision a of section 16-508 of this chapter where the commission would be authorized to deny a license to such predecessor business pursuant to this subdivision;
- 8. current membership in a trade association where such membership would be prohibited to a licensee pursuant to subdivision j of section 16-520 of this chapter unless the commission has determined, pursuant to such subdivision, that such association does not operate in a manner inconsistent with the purposes of this chapter;
- 9. the holding of a position in a trade association where membership or the holding of such position would be prohibited to a licensee pursuant to subdivision j of section 16-520 of this chapter;
- 10. failure to pay any tax, fine, penalty, or fee related to the applicant's business for which liability has been admitted by the person liable therefor, or for which judgment has been entered by a court or administrative tribunal of competent jurisdiction.

Id. at  $\S 16-509(a)(i)-(x)$ . See also id. at  $\S 16-504(a)$ .

The Commission also may refuse to issue a license or registration to any applicant who has "knowingly failed to provide information or documentation required by the Commission . . . or who has otherwise failed to demonstrate eligibility for a license." *Id.* at § 16-509(b). *See also Elite Demolition Contracting Corp. v. The City of New York*, 125 A.D.3d 576 (1st Dep't 2015); *Breeze Carting Corp. v. The City of New York*, 52 A.D.3d 424 (1st Dep't 2008); *Attonito v. Maldonado*, 3 A.D.3d 415 (1st Dep't) (Commission may deny an application for an exemption "where the applicant fails to provide the necessary information, or knowingly provides false information"); leave denied 2 N.Y.3d 705 (N.Y. 2004). *See also* Admin. Code § 16-509(a)(i) (failure to provide truthful information in connection with application as a consideration for denial). In addition, the Commission may refuse to issue a license or registration to an applicant that "has been determined to have committed any of the acts which would be a basis for the suspension or revocation of a license." *Id.* at § 16-509(c). *See also id.* at § 16-504(a). Finally, the Commission may refuse to issue a license or registration to any applicant where the applicant or its principals have previously had their license or registration revoked. *Id.* at § 16-509(d); *see also id.* at § 16-504(a).

An applicant for a private carting license (including a registration for hauling construction and demolition debris) has no entitlement to and no property interest in a license or registration, and the Commission is vested with broad discretion to grant or deny a license or registration application. Sanitation & Recycling Indus., Inc., 107 F.3d 985, 995 (2d Cir. 1997); see also Daxor Corp. v. New York Dep't of Health, 90 N.Y.2d 89, 98-100 (N.Y. 1997).

#### III. Statement of Facts

#### 1. Background

On March 4, 2016, J Coffey applied for a registration to operate a trade waste business that solely removes construction and demolition debris (commonly known as "C&D"). See registration application for J Coffey Contracting Inc. (the "Application"). The Application disclosed Connor Coffey ("Coffey") as the Applicant's sole principal, and listed four vehicle operators, including Coffey. See Application at pp.13, 18. The Applicant also disclosed that it employs a total of 15 employees. See id. at p.4 (Question 17). Coffey certified that all of the information contained in the Application was "full, complete and truthful." See id. at p.20.

On May 27, 2016, the Commission requested the Applicant provide a list of its employees and vehicle operators and its corporate tax returns. *See* letter dated May 27, 2016. On or about June 7, 2016, a member of the Commission's staff spoke with the Applicant's secretary, Veronica, regarding the Application. *See* memorandum to file date June 7, 2016. During the conversation, Veronica asked if anyone else in the office could certify the requested documents because Coffey was out of town. *Id.* Veronica was advised that only a principal or an authorized agent could sign on behalf of the Applicant. *Id.* Veronica then asked if either of Coffey's parents could sign, explaining that it was a family business and the parents were very much involved. *Id.* After the Commission's staff requested both parents be included on the Application, Veronica reversed her position, claiming that the parents were actually not that involved. *Id.* Later that day, Veronica

contacted the Commission, stating she had spoken with Coffey, who preferred to submit all the paperwork on his own "without his parents." *Id*.

On June 14, 2016, in response to a request for information, the Applicant provided amended schedules to the Application, disclosing Coffey's mother, Jennifer, as a current principal and Coffey's father, John, as a past principal of the Applicant. *See* amended Schedules A and B to the Application. Additionally, the Applicant disclosed three vehicle operators, including Coffey, and the same three individuals as employees. *See* list of employees; amended Schedule D. However, given that the Application indicated the Applicant employs a total of 15 employees, the Commission requested that the Applicant amend the employee disclosure to accurately reflect the full roster of the Applicant's employees. *See* notice to the Applicant dated June 24, 2016. The Commission's staff sent several follow-up requests when the Applicant did not respond to the June 24th notice. *See* notice to Applicant dated September 26, 2016; notice to Applicant dated October 13, 2016 (marked "final notice"); emailed notice to Applicant dated October 28, 2016; notice to Applicant, dated November 15, 2016 (also marked "final notice").

During the review of the pending application, the Commission uncovered several tax liabilities owed by Jennifer Coffey. Accordingly, in addition to the aforementioned requests, the Commission requested that the Applicant and its principals provide proof of payment of Jennifer's outstanding tax liability and a sworn statement detailing the Applicant's relationship with Coffey Contracting Inc. and John Coffey & Son, Inc. *See* notice to the Applicant dated September 26, 2016; notice to the Applicant dated October 13, 2016. To date, the Applicant has not responded to these requests for information.

#### 2. History of unregistered activity

John and Jennifer Coffey have a long history in the trade waste industry. In August 1996, John Coffey & Son, Inc. filed a registration application with the Commission. *See* registration application of John Coffey & Son, Inc. (the "John Coffey & Son Application"). The John Coffey & Son Application disclosed John and Jennifer Coffey as principals of the entity. In February 2002, the Commission issued an order withdrawing the John Coffey & Son, Inc. Application because the entity failed to pay outstanding fees and respond to Commission inquiries. *See* John Coffey & Son, Inc. Withdrawal Order.

In addition to the aforementioned entity, John and Jennifer Coffey owned Coffey Contracting Inc., which was formed in 2003. See NYS Department of State website. Coffey Contracting Inc. is related to the Applicant, which was also managed by John and Jennifer Coffey. See amended Schedules A and B of the Application; transcript of sworn interview of Connor Coffey, dated October 27, 2016 ("Coffey Tr.") at 78 (acknowledging that his parents exercised authority as managers of the Applicant). Aside from sharing principals, Coffey Contracting is also related to the Applicant in other ways: the Applicant uses the same fax number and garage address that Coffey Contracting Inc. previously used. See Application at pp.1, 13; letter from Coffey Contracting Inc., dated November 22, 2010. Both entities also shared an office address. See filing for Applicant; New York State Worker's Compensation Board ("WCB") penalty for Coffey Contracting Inc., dated March 4, 2014. The Applicant acquired its truck from Coffey Contracting

Inc. at no cost. *See* Coffey Tr. at 27. And, both entities have employees in common. *See*, *e.g.*, Application at p.18; Notice of Violation for Unregistered Activity TW-7332.

Since incorporating, Coffey Contracting has been cited by the Commission for engaging in unregistered activity. See Notice of Violation TW-5053, dated February 16, 2010 (issued for unregistered activity observed by Commission investigator on December 28, 2009). In December 2010, a Commission investigator again observed Coffey Contracting Inc. engaging in unregistered activity. See Notice of Violation TW-6549 (for activity on December 22, 2010). Coffey Contracting Inc. failed to appear at its hearing, was found in default and was assessed a penalty of \$5,000. To date, this penalty remains unpaid. See final notice to Coffey Contracting Inc., dated November 24, 2015.

Over the ensuing five years, the Commission issued four more notices of violation to Coffey Contracting Inc. and John Coffey d/b/a Coffey Contracting Inc. for operating without a Commission-issued registration. *See* Notice of Violation TW-6756 (for activity on March 29, 2011); Notice of Violation TW-7332 (for activity on September 6, 2011); Notice of Violation TW 8560 (for activity on April 24, 2012); Notice of Violation TW 8881 (for activity on May 23, 2012). Coffey Contracting Inc. defaulted on each of those administrative violations and received a penalty of \$5,000 for each violation. To date, Coffey Contracting Inc. owes the Commission a total of \$30,000 in penalties for operating without a registration.

The Applicant itself has also engaged in unregistered activity. *See* Notice of Violation TW 212412 (for activity on September 14, 2015). On January 14, 2016, the Applicant settled the violation and paid a \$2,500 fine. *See* Stipulation of Settlement in Lieu of Violation TW-212412. One month later, the Applicant filed the instant application. *See* Application.<sup>3</sup>

#### 3. Coffey provided false sworn testimony

On October 27, 2016, the Commission's staff conducted a sworn interview of Coffey in connection with its review of the Application. *See* transcript of Connor Coffey ("Coffey Tr."). Before the interview began, Coffey completed a background questionnaire and certified that his answers were truthful. *See* questionnaire completed by Coffey, dated October 27, 2016 (the "Questionnaire"). In his testimony, Coffey stated that the Applicant was incorporated in July 2010, when he was 20-years-old and enrolled full-time in college. *See* Coffey Tr. at 16. After graduating, he worked full-time for RA Consultants LLC. *See id.* at 19; Questionnaire at p.8 (worked for RA Consultants from May 2013 through May 2015).

During the interview, Coffey provided false and, at times, conflicting testimony regarding his father's role at the Applicant. For example, Coffey initially testified that, before 2015, he only worked part-time for the Applicant and did not "focus directly" on his business until 2015, after failing to obtain his engineering license. *See* Coffey Tr. at 17, 18, 24. In his absence, his father

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Coffey Contracting Inc. failed to appear at its hearing for the February 2010 notice of violation. The company was subsequently found in default and assessed a penalty of \$5,000. To date, this penalty remains unpaid. *See* final notice to Coffey Contracting Inc., dated February 22, 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Although the Applicant first filed February 19, 2016, the Application was not properly completed until March 4, 2016.

"oversaw the day-to-day aspects of the company." See id. at 18. Coffey later contradicted himself by testifying his father was not involved in the business at all. See id. at 70-71 (testifying, "he's not involved," and "like I told you previously, it's my business. I built it up"). But, when shown the updated Schedule B to the Application that discloses John Coffey as a past principal, Coffey could not explain the inconsistency. See id. at 77, 80, 82 ("I don't have a proper answer for that right now.").

#### 4. John Coffey is a past principal and Jennifer Coffey is a principal of the Applicant

A number of factors demonstrate that Coffey's father John is a past principal of the Applicant. First, and most tellingly, the Applicant disclosed John as a past principal on the Application. See amended Schedule B (listing John Coffey as the "former president"). In addition, the Applicant's general contractor's license has been listed under John Coffey's name since 2011. See NYC Department of Buildings website. And, until recently, all job permits for the Applicant listed John Coffey as the contact person. Finally, Schedule A of the Application states that Coffey "inherited" the company from his parents. See amended Schedule A. Furthermore, Coffey testified that his father was "his eyes and ears" while he attended college full-time and later while he worked full time. See, e.g., Coffey Tr. at 24.

With respect to Jennifer Coffey, the Applicant ultimately updated the Application to disclose Jennifer Coffey as a current principal, listing her as the "office manager" from July 2010 to present. See amended Schedule A. Jennifer Coffey also is an authorized signatory on the Applicant's business accounts. See Coffey Tr. at 39-40. In fact, the Applicant's signature cards has Jennifer Coffey listed as "Secretary" and "General Manager." See file. Jennifer Coffey also has access to Coffey's signature stamp. See Coffey Tr. at 40. And, during his deposition, Coffey acknowledged that his mother has "authority in the office." See id. at 78.

#### 5. Applicant failed to provide requested information

The Applicant failed to provide certain requested information to the Commission. Specifically, on five separate occasions, the Commission requested that the Applicant disclose all of its employees. *See* letters to the Applicant, dated May 27, June 24, September 26, October 13, and November 15, 2016. Despite these requests, the Applicant has yet to fully disclose its employees: Coffey testified that the Applicant has approximately 15 to 20 employees, *see* Coffey Tr. at 21, but the Applicant has only disclosed three to the Commission.

#### 6. The Applicant and its related companies owe substantial debts

As noted above, the Applicant and Coffey Contracting Inc. owe \$30,000 in penalties resulting from Commission-issued violations. In addition, the Commission's background investigation discovered other significant debt attributable to the Applicant. Specifically, the Commission found that the Applicant's predecessor entity, Coffey Contracting, owes \$354,171.62 to state and federal government agencies. Those debts are as follows:

Company	Туре	Date Filed	Docket No.	Amount
Coffey Contracting Inc.	Federal Tax Lien	2007-2010	201601220034648	\$208,913
Coffey Contracting Inc.	NYS WCB Warrant	2/6/2015	1959342	\$60,500
Coffey Contracting Inc.	NYS Tax Warrant	2007-2012	Numerous	\$29,512.12
Coffey Contracting Inc.	NYS Dept. of Labor	2010-2012	Numerous	\$22,860.82
	Warrants			
Coffey Contracting Inc.	NYC Tax Warrant	2008-2011	Numerous	\$2,385.68

John and Jennifer Coffey and their company John Coffey & Son, Inc. also owe a total of \$98,418 to state and federal governments. Those debts are as follows:

Company	Type	<b>Date Filed</b>	Docket No.	Amount
Jennifer Coffey	Federal Tax Lien	2012	Numerous	\$77,933
Jennifer Coffey	NYS Tax Warrant	4/8/2014	1882788	\$919
John Coffey	Federal Tax Lien	9/23/2011	1154126	\$16,672
John Coffey & Son, Inc.	NYS Tax Warrant	2007	1119088; 1154126	\$2,422
John Coffey & Son, Inc.	NYS Tax Lien	2003	809485	\$472

#### IV. Basis for Denial

### 1. John and Jennifer Coffey were principals of a predecessor trade waste business for which the Commission would be authorized to deny a license.

The Commission may deny an application for a license to operate a trade waste business where it determines that the applicant lacks good character, honesty, and integrity. See Admin. Code § 16-509(a). One factor that the Commission may consider in making this determination is whether a principal of the applicant was a "principal in a predecessor trade waste business . . . where the commission would be authorized to deny a license to such predecessor business . . . ." Id. at § 16-509(a)(vii). The term "predecessor trade waste business" is defined as "any business engaged in the removal, collection or disposal of trade waste in which one or more principals of the applicant were principals in the five year period preceding the application." Id. at § 16-508(b).

The Commission may deny the Application based on this factor. John Coffey is at least a past principal (if not a current principal) of the Applicant, and his wife Jennifer is a current principal. *See* amended Schedules A and B to the Application (disclosing John as a past principal and Jennifer as a current principal). Additionally, John and Jennifer were principals of Coffey Contracting, a business engaged in the removal, collection or disposal of trade waste. Coffey Contracting remained active until October 2016, and the Applicant filed the Application in March 2016. Thus, John and Jennifer Coffey were principals of Coffey Contracting within the five-year period preceding the Application.

As noted above, Coffey Contracting owes debts in the amount of \$354,171.62 to state and federal government agencies. Such debt would be more than sufficient to deny an application for a trade waste license. See id. at § 16-509(a)(x). Moreover, the company repeatedly engaged in

unregistered activity in violation of Commission rules. *Id.* at §§ 16-505(a), 16-509(c)(ii). The Applicant has not refuted any of these points. Accordingly, the Commission denies the Application based on the "predecessor trade waste business" consideration set forth in Administrative Code § 16-509(a)(vii).

#### 2. The Applicant's principal testified falsely during his sworn interview.

The Commission may refuse to issue a registration to an applicant who has provided false information to the Commission, including through a sworn interview. See Admin. Code § 16-509(a)(i); Admin. Code § 16-504(c) (Commission has "full power to compel the attendance, examine and take testimony under oath of such persons as it may deem necessary in relation to such investigation . . . "). Here, Coffey testified falsely during his sworn interview with the Commission's staff regarding his father's involvement in and control over the Applicant's affairs. Despite initially admitting that John Coffey was involved in the Applicant's business, Coffey later testified that his father was not involved. See Coffey Tr. at 18, 70-71. Moreover, when confronted with certified documents disclosing his parents as principals, i.e., amended schedules A and B to the Application, Coffey could not explain the inconsistency between his testimony and the sworn documents. See, e.g., id. at 77, 80.

Coffey's contradictory testimony demonstrates that the Applicant and its sole-disclosed principal lack good character, honesty, and integrity. The Applicant has not refuted this point. Accordingly, the Commission denies the Application on this independently sufficient basis. *Id.* 

### 3. The Applicant's related entities and its principals have failed to pay taxes and other obligations for which judgments have been entered.

In determining whether an applicant lacks good character, honesty and integrity, the Commission may consider an applicant's "failure to pay any tax, fine, penalty, fee related to the applicant's business . . . for which judgment has been entered by a court or administrative tribunal of competent jurisdiction . . . . " Admin. Code § 16-509(a)(x). See also id. at §§ 16-513(a)(iv), 16-509(b). As listed above, the Applicant's related entity, Coffey Contracting, owes \$354,171.62 in judgments to state and federal government and to the Commission from 2007 to 2015. Additionally, the Applicant's principal and past principal, Jennifer and John Coffey, and their company John Coffey & Son Inc. have accumulated judgments totaling \$98,418 owed to state and federal government agencies. The Applicant has not refuted this fact. Accordingly, the Commission denies the Application on this independently sufficient basis. *Id*.

## 4. The Applicant and related entities have repeatedly engaged in unregistered trade waste removal activity.

The Commission is authorized to deny the registration application of a company that has engaged in unregistered trade waste removal activity in New York City. *See* Admin. Code §§ 16-505(a), 16-509(c)(ii), 16-513(a)(i). Here, Commission investigators have found the Applicant and related entities John Coffey & Son, Inc. and Coffey Contracting engaging in unregistered activity on a combined seven occasions between 2010 and 2015. Repeatedly engaging in unlicensed or unregistered activity is further evidence that the Applicant's and its principals, lack good character honesty, and integrity and is a basis on which to deny the Application. The Applicant has not

refuted this point. Accordingly, the Commission denies the Application on this independently sufficient basis.

### 5. The Applicant has knowingly failed to provide information and documentation required by the Commission.

The Commission may refuse to issue a license or registration to any applicant who has "knowingly failed to provide information or documentation required by the Commission . . . or who has otherwise failed to demonstrate eligibility for a license." *Id.* at § 16-509(b). On May 27, 2016, Commission's staff requested the Applicant disclose all of their employees. *See* letter dated June 24, 2016. The staff sent follow-up notices to the Applicant on June 24, 2016, September 24, October 13, 2016, and November 15, 2016, and a member of the Commission's staff spoke with Coffey and his staff regarding the outstanding requests. On November 15, 2016, the Commission sent the Applicant a request marked "final notice" regarding all requested documents that remain outstanding. *See* letter dated November 15, 2016. That letter advised the Applicant that "failure to respond may adversely affect the Applicant's pending registration application." *Id.* As of the date of this recommendation, the Applicant has not produced the requested documents, including disclosure of all of the Applicant's employees.

Thus, the Applicant has "knowingly failed to provide the information and/or documentation required by the Commission." See Admin. Code § 16-509(b). The Applicant has not refuted this point. Accordingly, the Commission denies the Application on this independently sufficient basis. *Id.* 

#### IV. Conclusion

The Commission is vested with broad discretion to refuse to issue a license or registration to any applicant who it determines lacks good character, honesty and integrity. The record herein demonstrates that the Applicant and its principals lack good character, honesty and integrity. Accordingly, based on the above-listed independently sufficient grounds, the Commission denies the registration application of J Coffey Contracting Inc.

This denial decision is effective immediately. J Coffey Contracting Inc. may not operate as a trade waste business in the City of New York.

Dated: March 31, 2017

THE NEW YORK CITY BUSINESS INTEGRITY COMMISSION

Daniel D. Brownell
Commissioner and Chair

Commissioner Kathryn Garcia
Department of Sanitation

Commissioner Mark G. Peters Department of Investigation

Commissioner Lorelei Salas Department of Consumer Affairs

Deputy Commissioner Andrew Schwartz

(Designee)

Department of Small Business Services

Deputy Inspector Dominick Dorazio

(Designee)

New York City Police Department