



**BOARD OF ETHICS  
CITY OF CHICAGO**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
SEPTEMBER 21, 2020**

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**BOARD CONCLUDES SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH FORMER FIRE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE REVOLVING DOOR PROVISIONS**

At its August 2020 meeting, the Board authorized a settlement of Case No. 19029.IG for a \$2,000 fine with a former Lieutenant and Fire Training Specialist with the Chicago Fire Department (CFD). The case was based on a complaint filed with the Board's Executive Director in September 2017, alleging violations of the City's revolving door/post-employment restrictions. The Executive Director immediately referred the matter to the Office of the Inspector General (IG) for investigation.

The IG completed an investigation and delivered the matter to the Board in September 2019. The IG's investigation adduced evidence from which the Board was also able to conclude that the former employee: (i) exercised management authority over a City contract by assisting in the drafting of a Request for Proposals (RFP) while he was negotiating and securing post-City employment with one of the firms responding to the RFP, which firm was eventually awarded the contract; then, (ii) after retiring from City employment, was actively involved in helping his employer to perform the contract.

The Board determined that the former employee committed four (4) Ordinance violations (two (2) of the post-employment restrictions—but the vote on the permanent prohibition's violation was 3-1, with one Board member dissenting on the basis that there was no such violation); and one (1) each of the prohibited conduct and conflict of interests provisions, via 4-0 votes). However, applying its powers of equity, the Board imposed the minimum fine of \$500 for each violation, for a total fine of \$2,000. The Board's rationale for imposing the minimum fine was that the respondent's former City colleagues asked for his assistance. *The case points up the critical importance of seeking confidential advice from the Board before acting.*

The Board thanks the IG for its work in this matter. At this time, there remain no more pending IG matters with the Board.

To read the Settlement Agreement, please see this link:  
<https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/ethics/provdrs/reg/svcs/SettlementAgreements.html>

To read about all 11 cases submitted to the Board by the IG adjudication, please see this link:  
<https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/ethics/provdrs/reg/svcs/ongoing-summary-of-enforcement-matters.html>