

ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR CONTRACTORS SEEKING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA

Termination of Agreement for Certain Acts.

- A. The City may, at its sole discretion, terminate this Agreement in the event any one or more of the following occurs:
1. If a Contractor¹ does any of the following:
 - a. Is convicted² of operating a business in violation of any Federal, State or local law or regulation;
 - b. Is convicted of a crime punishable as a felony involving dishonesty³;
 - c. Is convicted of an offense involving dishonesty or is convicted of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with: (1) obtaining; (2) attempting to obtain; or, (3) performing a public contract or subcontract;
 - d. Is convicted of any offense which indicates a lack of business integrity or business honesty which seriously and directly affects the present responsibility of a City contractor or subcontractor; and/or,
 - e. Made (or makes) any false statement(s) or representation(s) with respect to this Agreement.
 2. If fraudulent, criminal or other seriously improper conduct of any officer, director, shareholder, partner, employee or other individual associated with the Contractor can be imputed to the Contractor when the conduct occurred in connection with the individual's performance of duties for or on behalf of the Contractor, with the Contractor's knowledge, approval or acquiescence, the Contractor's acceptance of the benefits derived from the conduct shall be evidence of such knowledge, approval or acquiescence.

¹ For purposes of this Agreement, the word "Consultant" (whether a person or a legal entity) also refers to "Contractor" and means any of the following: an owner or co-owner of a sole proprietorship; a person who controls or who has the power to control a business entity; a general partner of a partnership; a principal in a joint venture; or a primary corporate stockholder [i.e., a person who owns more than ten percent (10%) of the outstanding stock of a corporation] and who is active in the day to day operations of that corporation.

² For purposes of this Agreement, the words "convicted" or "conviction" mean a judgment or conviction of a criminal offense by any court of competent jurisdiction, whether entered upon a verdict or a plea, and includes a conviction entered upon a plea of nolo contendere within the past five (5) years.

³ As used herein, "dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, failure to pay tax obligations, receiving stolen property, collusion or conspiracy.

- B. The City may also terminate this Agreement in the event any one or more of the following occurs:
1. The City determines that Contractor no longer has the financial capability⁴ or business experience⁵ to perform the terms of, or operate under, this Agreement; or,
 2. If City determines that the Contractor fails to submit information, or submits false information, which is required to perform or be awarded a contract with City, including, but not limited to, Contractor's failure to maintain a required State issued license, failure to obtain a City business license (if applicable) or failure to provide and maintain bonds and/or insurance policies required under this Agreement.
- C. In the event a prospective Contractor (or bidder) is ruled ineligible (debarred) to participate in a contract award process or a contract is terminated pursuant to these provisions, Contractor may appeal the City's action to the City Council by filing a written request with the City Clerk within ten (10) days of the notice given by City to have the matter heard. The matter will be heard within thirty (30) days of the filing of the appeal request with the City Clerk. The Contractor will have the burden of proof on the appeal. The Contractor shall have the opportunity to present evidence, both oral and documentary, and argument.

⁴ Contractor becomes insolvent, transfers assets in fraud of creditors, makes an assignment for the benefit of creditors, files a petition under any section or chapter of the federal Bankruptcy Code (11 U.S.C.), as amended, or under any similar law or statute of the United States or any state thereof, is adjudged bankrupt or insolvent in proceedings under such laws, or a receiver or trustee is appointed for all or substantially all of the assets of Contractor.

⁵ Loss of personnel deemed essential by the City for the successful performance of the obligations of the Contractor to the City.