

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION**

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Regental Action Required Under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute

Action Requested: Authorization for the university to enter into an agreement with Society of American Fight Directors (University of Michigan Employee, Christina Traister, Elected President).

Background:

The University of Michigan Department of Theatre & Drama seeks approval to enter into an agreement with the Society of American Fight Directors for professional examination of stage combat testing and industry certification.

The proposed agreement falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as Christina Traister is a University employee as Associate Professor of Acting & Stage Combat with the Department of Theatre & Drama and would be party to the contract as elected president of Society of American Fight Directors.

However, the Statute allows the university to enter into such agreements if the following conditions are met:

- a) The public servant promptly discloses any pecuniary interest in the contract to the official body which has power to approve the purchase, which disclosure shall be a matter of record in its official proceedings.
- b) The purchase is approved by a vote of not less than 2/3 of the full membership of the approving body in open session without the vote of the public servant making the disclosure.
- c) The official body discloses the following summary information in its official minutes:
  - i) The name of each party involved in the contract.
  - ii) The terms of the purchase, including duration, financial consideration between the parties, facilities or services of the public entity included in the purchase, and the nature and degree of assignment of employees of the public entity for fulfillment of the purchase.
  - iii) The nature of any pecuniary interest.

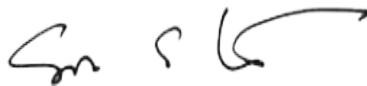
The following information is provided in compliance with the statutory requirements contained in Section (c) above:

- i) The parties to the contract are the Regents of the University of Michigan and its Department of Theatre & Drama and Society of American Fight Directors.
- ii) The agreement is for a duration of three years at a total cost not to exceed \$9,000. The Society of American Fight Directors will be supplying all the necessary resources and personnel to fulfill this contract. The remaining base contract terms and conditions are typical to those used in Procurement Services standard templates for other similar contracts entered into by the Regents.
- iii) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that University of Michigan employee, Christina Traister, is elected president of Society of American Fight Directors.

Christina Traister has met state law requirements with the disclosure of her pecuniary interest and formal appointment arrangements with the University of Michigan. Requirements, if any, that may be applicable by the supervisor of Christina Traister, under the Medical School's or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee's procedures are separately analyzed and managed.

We recommend that the Board of Regents approve the agreement between the University of Michigan and The Society of American Fight Directors subject to requirements, if any, that the supervisor of Christina Traister or the Medical School's or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee may impose.

Respectfully submitted,



Geoffrey S. Chatas  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer

October 2023