DEBARMENT OF CHICAGO CONTEMPORARY DANCE THEATRE INC.

THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education of the City of Chicago ("Board") permanently debar Chicago Contemporary Dance Theatre Inc. ("Respondent") from doing any business with the Board.

Following the Office of the Inspector General's ("OIG") recommendations in Report No. 17-02079, the Board's Chief Procurement Officer served Respondent with a Notice of Proposed Debarment ("Notice") on June 26, 2018. The Notice initiated debarment proceedings against Respondent based on its conduct in aiding in the hiring of an unlicensed teacher in violation of Illinois State Law 105 ILCS 5/21B-15[d] and without a background check, in violation on Illinois State Law 105 ILCS 5/34-18.5. Respondent allowed the unlicensed teacher to use Respondent's vendor number to seek payment from the Board. Respondent additionally failed to cooperate with OIG's investigation by refusing to provide requested responsive information. Respondent's failure to cooperate with OIG's investigation violated the terms of its contract with the Board. The Notice sought to debar Respondent from further operating as a vendor with the Board. Pursuant to sections 2(f) and (g) of the Board's debarment policy, adopted by Board Report 08-1217-PO1 and subsequently updated by Board Report 19-0626-PO1 the bases for debarment include "refusal to cooperate with OIG in an investigation" and "refusal to cooperate with reasonable requests of Board inspectors, representatives, or other personnel with respect to work under contract provisions, plans, or specifications, or otherwise." Debarment Policy, § 2(f) and (g), respectively. On September 16, 2019, the Chief Operating Officer denied Respondent's request for a hearing. The Chief Operating Officer has reviewed the record (as defined in section 4.5(i)(10) of the debarment policy) and recommends permanent debarment.

Based on the facts set forth in the record as defined in Section 4.5(i)(10) of the Board's debarment policy including but not limited to OIG Report 17-02079 and Respondent's Answer to the Notice, the Chief Operating Officer recommends that the Board adopt the findings of the OIG and permanently debar Respondent from doing any business with the Board effective immediately. All existing contracts between the Board and Respondent, if any, are terminated. Respondent is ineligible to act as a subcontractor or supplier to any existing or future Board contracts.

The Board adopts and approves the recommendation of the Chief Operating Officer.

LSC REVIEW:

LSC approval is not applicable to this report.

AFFIRMATIVE

ACTION STATUS:

Affirmative Action review is not applicable to this report.

FINANCIAL:

GENERAL

CONDITIONS:

None.

None.

APPROVED:

ARNALDO RIVERA
Chief Operating Officer

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

General Counsel