

September 28, 2022

PERMANENT DEBARMENT OF JORGE PENA

THE INTERIM CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Education of the City of Chicago (“Board”) permanently debar Jorge Pena (“Respondent”) from doing any business with the Board.

The Board’s Chief Procurement Officer mailed a Notice of Proposed Debarment to Respondent on May 11, 2022 initiating debarment proceedings against Respondent based on Section 2(k) of the Board’s Debarment Policy, the Board’s Guidelines Regarding Maintaining Professional Staff/Student Boundaries, and CPS’s Staff Acceptable Use Policy in effect at the relevant time. Respondent was found to have contacted and exchanged social media messages with a North-Grand High School student and was social media friends with two other North-Grand students while they were enrolled in the district.

Respondent failed to submit a written response to the Notice as required by Section 4(d) of the Board’s Debarment Policy. All allegations in the Notice are therefore admitted. See Debarment Policy, §4(d). The Interim Chief Operating Officer has reviewed the record (as defined in Section 4.5(10) of the Debarment Policy), including Investigative Report No. OIG 19-01234, and recommends permanent debarment.

Based on the facts set forth in the record as defined in Section 4.5(10) of the Board’s Debarment Policy, the Interim Chief Operating Officer recommends that: (1) Respondent be permanently barred from doing business with CPS or otherwise working on CPS property; (2) Respondent be barred from participating as a subcontractor, vendor, or supplier under any Board contract; (3) Respondent be barred from being hired or employed by CPS; and (4) Respondent be declared ineligible for the award of any new Board business.

The Board adopts and approves the recommendation of the Interim 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: None.

GENERAL CONDITIONS: None.

APPROVED:

DocuSigned by:
Charles Mayfield
FF53B76ABC99427
CHARLES E. MAYFIELD
Interim Chief Operating Officer

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

DocuSigned by:
Joseph T. Moriarty DS
571EC59C33144C5
JOSEPH T. MORIARTY MSW
General Counsel