



April 19, 2021

Hector H. Balderas
New Mexico Attorney General
201 3rd St. NW
Suite 300
Albuquerque, NM 87102

VIA HAND-DELIVERY

Re: Suspected Violations of the Governmental Conduct Act and Procurement Code

Dear Attorney General Balderas:

I am writing to notify you of a suspected violation of the Governmental Conduct Act and the Procurement Code, by Sheryl Williams Stapleton, who is the current Coordinator and Director of Career and Technical Education ("CTE") at Albuquerque Public Schools ("APS").

Ms. Williams Stapleton has for a period of years made requests for procurement from a software known as "Cyber Quest" which is purportedly developed by a Washington D.C. company called Robotics Management Learning System, LLC ("Robotics"). To the best of the APS Finance Department's knowledge, these procurements occurred for several years without a proper request for proposal ("RFP") and response. When the Procurement Officer caught this irregularity and issued an RFP, Robotics indicated in its response that no conflict of interest existed. However, the Finance Department noticed that despite being D.C.-based, Robotics requested checks be remitted to an Albuquerque, New Mexico P.O. Box. This P.O. Box had at one time belonged to a person named David Hendrickson, which is the same name as one of Ms. Williams Stapleton's children. On his Facebook page, David Hendrickson lists his job is listed as a "coordinator" for Robotics. Also, the owner of Robotics, Joseph Jackson, appears to be both a personal friend and the president of the same non-profit Ms. Williams Stapleton works for as a director.

Additionally, Ms. Williams Stapleton has also requested the procurement of the services from a company known as TriTech Enterprises, LLC ("TriTech"), which is owned by a man named Randolph Williams. TriTech purports to conduct teacher trainings on use of the software known as "Cyber Quest" and appears to have close ties to Robotics. Both Robotics and TriTech charge the exact same amount for the exact same trainings, but it is unclear why both organizations are paid for the same trainings. The frequency of the trainings is questionable and the quality of the software is suspect.

By separate letter, APS will present to you additional information about Ms. Williams Stapleton and Robotics. Instead of waiting to provide you all the available information, I thought it best to notify you just as soon as I became aware of this situation. As we become aware of additional information, we will provide it to you by separate letter.

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Because of the circumstances surrounding these procurements, we are referring this matter to your office. Should you require further information or documentation, the resources of our offices are at your disposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Elder", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott Elder
Superintendent
Albuquerque Public Schools