ORDER OF DISMISSAL

THIS MATTER COMES BEFORE THE BOARD on the request of the Director of Government Ethics that the formal investigation initiated against Respondent herein be dismissed; and

IT APPEARING that, pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 1-1162.13(a)(3), a formal investigation was initiated against Respondent, a former Resource Allocation Analyst for the District of Columbia Department of Human Resources (DCHR), based on Respondent’s October 11, 2018 guilty plea to a federal bribery charge for accepting more than $140,000 in bribes in connection with her work for DCHR;

IT FURTHER APPEARING that, between approximately July 2015 through July 2017, Respondent accepted 50 checks and one PayPal money transfer totaling more than $140,000 from a consultant employed with a company that had agreements with DCHR;

IT FURTHER APPEARING that, Respondent engaged in a scheme in which Respondent agreed to protect government contracts held by the company and ensured no complaints about its performance reached others in D.C. government in exchange for the payments;
IT FURTHER APPEARING that, Respondent advised other D.C. government officials to approve invoices for payment to the company despite suspicions about more than $1 million in invoices submitted by the company under its contracts with DCHR;

IT FURTHER APPEARING that, on January 21, 2020, Respondent was sentenced to 30 months in prison and ordered to pay $140,537.02, the amount Respondent accepted in bribes, to the government;

IT FURTHER APPEARING that, the Director has recommended that the Board dismiss this formal investigation for the following reasons:

1. Respondent has been punished for her conduct;
2. Respondent was sentence to 30 months in prison;
3. Respondent was ordered to forfeit the amount she accepted in bribes;
4. The interests of judicial economy would be best served by dismissing this matter without prejudice, thereby allowing resources to be focused on other investigations;
5. The Director may reopen this investigation and pursue action against Respondent within the applicable limitations period, if she determines that there is reason to do so.

ORDERED that, the formal investigation initiated against Respondent be, and hereby is, DISMISSED without prejudice; and it is further

ORDERED that this case be CLOSED.

2/3/2022

Norma Hutcheson
Chairperson, Board of Ethics and Government Accountability