

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE
For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

FORM CIQ

This questionnaire reflects changes made to the law by H.B. 23, 84th Leg., Regular Session.

This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with Chapter 176, Local Government Code, by a vendor who has a business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a) with a local governmental entity and the vendor meets requirements under Section 176.006(a).

By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than the 7th business day after the date the vendor becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006(a-1), Local Government Code.

A vendor commits an offense if the vendor knowingly violates Section 176.006, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a misdemeanor.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

1 Name of vendor who has a business relationship with local governmental entity.

2 **Check this box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire.** (The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than the 7th business day after the date on which you became aware that the originally filed questionnaire was incomplete or inaccurate.)

3 Name of local government officer about whom the information is being disclosed.

Name of Officer

4 Describe each employment or other business relationship with the local government officer, or a family member of the officer, as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A). Also describe any family relationship with the local government officer. Complete subparts A and B for each employment or business relationship described. Attach additional pages to this Form CIQ as necessary.

A. Is the local government officer or a family member of the officer receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from the vendor?

Yes No

B. Is the vendor receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from or at the direction of the local government officer or a family member of the officer AND the taxable income is not received from the local governmental entity?

Yes No

5 Describe each employment or business relationship that the vendor named in Section 1 maintains with a corporation or other business entity with respect to which the local government officer serves as an officer or director, or holds an ownership interest of one percent or more.

6 Check this box if the vendor has given the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts as described in Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding gifts described in Section 176.003(a-1).

7

Signature of vendor doing business with the governmental entity

Date

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

A complete copy of Chapter 176 of the Local Government Code may be found at <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/LG/htm/LG.176.htm>. For easy reference, below are some of the sections cited on this form.

Local Government Code § 176.001(1-a): "Business relationship" means a connection between two or more parties based on commercial activity of one of the parties. The term does not include a connection based on:

- (A) a transaction that is subject to rate or fee regulation by a federal, state, or local governmental entity or an agency of a federal, state, or local governmental entity;
- (B) a transaction conducted at a price and subject to terms available to the public; or
- (C) a purchase or lease of goods or services from a person that is chartered by a state or federal agency and that is subject to regular examination by, and reporting to, that agency.

Local Government Code § 176.003(a)(2)(A) and (B):

(a) A local government officer shall file a conflicts disclosure statement with respect to a vendor if:

(2) the vendor:

(A) has an employment or other business relationship with the local government officer or a family member of the officer that results in the officer or family member receiving taxable income, other than investment income, that exceeds \$2,500 during the 12-month period preceding the date that the officer becomes aware that

- (i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed;
- or
- (ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor;

(B) has given to the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts that have an aggregate value of more than \$100 in the 12-month period preceding the date the officer becomes aware that:

- (i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed; or
- (ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor.

Local Government Code § 176.006(a) and (a-1)

(a) A vendor shall file a completed conflict of interest questionnaire if the vendor has a business relationship with a local governmental entity and:

- (1) has an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A);
- (2) has given a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, one or more gifts with the aggregate value specified by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding any gift described by Section 176.003(a-1); or
- (3) has a family relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity.

(a-1) The completed conflict of interest questionnaire must be filed with the appropriate records administrator not later than the seventh business day after the later of:

(1) the date that the vendor:

- (A) begins discussions or negotiations to enter into a contract with the local governmental entity; or
- (B) submits to the local governmental entity an application, response to a request for proposals or bids, correspondence, or another writing related to a potential contract with the local governmental entity; or

(2) the date the vendor becomes aware:

- (A) of an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer, or a family member of the officer, described by Subsection (a);
- (B) that the vendor has given one or more gifts described by Subsection (a); or
- (C) of a family relationship with a local government officer.

Instructions for the Conflict of Interest Questionnaire

Section 176.006 requires disclosure of a person's "affiliations or business relations that might cause a conflict of interest." The term "affiliation" is not defined in Chapter 176. However, the general definition of the word "affiliation" would mean any association or connection. So any affiliation, including such things as friendship, membership in some group or organization, relationship by blood or marriage, or any other connection, must be disclosed.

How to fill out the Conflict of Interest Questionnaire (each number corresponds with the number on Form CIQ):

1. Name of person (vendor) doing business with the City. If the vendor is a corporation, partnership, etc., then each person who acts as an agent for the business in dealings with the City must complete the form. Also state company name.
2. Check the box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire. Updates are required by law by September 1 of each year in which the person submits a proposal or bid, or begins contract discussions or negotiations with the City. Updates are also required by the 10th business day after an event that makes a statement in a previously filed questionnaire incomplete or inaccurate.
3. Complete this section by listing the name of the local government officer (City employee or Council member) with whom there is an affiliation or business relationship with.
4. Describe how you are affiliated or related to a City employee or Council member who may make recommendations to the City regarding expenditures of money. Answer questions A and B with "Yes" or "No" as applicable.

Examples:

- If you, your spouse, parent, or child is in business with a City employee that would be making a recommendation concerning a purchase or sales transaction involving you, the relationship must be reported.
 - If you are a City employee and would be making a recommendation concerning a purchase or sales transaction involving you, the relationship must be reported.
 - If your neighbor or friend is a City employee and would be making a recommendation concerning a purchase or sales transaction concerning you and you feel your relationship with this employee could affect their recommendation, the relationship must be reported.
 - If you employ or do business with a spouse, parent, or child of a City employee that would be making a recommendation concerning a purchase or sales transaction involving you, the relationship must be reported.
 - If any other situation exists that would result in a conflict of interest, the relationship must be reported.
 - If your spouse, parent, or child is a City employee that does NOT make recommendations concerning purchases, this relationship should not be reported.
5. State whether the vendor named in Section 1 is employed by a corporation or other business entity with which the City employee or Council member serves as an officer or director or holds an ownership interest of one percent or more.
 6. Check this box if the vendor has given the City employee or Council member named in Section 3, or family member of the same, one or more gifts as describe in Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding gifts in section 176.003(a-1).
 7. Signature Box. Person completing the form must date and sign the form. If the form is being completed for a corporation, partnership, etc., the person signing should be authorized to act on their behalf.

A signature is required in Section 7 regardless of any other entry on the form.