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May 21, 2007

Nina Mitchell Wells, Secretary of State
State of New Jersey
Office of the Secretary
P.O. Box 300
Trenton, NJ 08625-0300

**Re: Township of West Deptford, County of Gloucester
O.16.05 Establishing a Fair and Open Process**

Dear Secretary Wells:

My office represents the Township of West Deptford. Consistent with the provisions of Chapter 271, enclosed please find one (1) original certified and one (1) copy of the Township of West Deptford's Ordinance Establishing a Fair and Open Process for the Award of Professional Service Agreements. Kindly stamp file both documents and return the filed copy in the envelope enclosed for your convenience.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you or your staff have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Very truly yours,

ANGELINI, VINIAR & FREEDMAN, LLP

By: 
MARIA DETITTO, ESQUIRE

MD/dls
Enclosure
cc: Eric Campo, Administrator (w/o encl.)



FILED

JUN 12 2007

NINA MITCHELL WELLS
SECRETARY OF STATE

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST DEPTFORD
ESTABLISHING A FAIR AND OPEN PROCESS FOR THE AWARD OF
PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENTS AND OTHER AGREEMENTS
WITH BUSINESS ENTITIES**

WHEREAS, Professional entities and other business entities are exempt from established New Jersey Public bidding laws, specifically said exception being set forth under N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Deptford ("Township") has recognized that there is a need for a fair and open process for the awarding of professional service contracts and other contracts as contained in *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5*, where other contracts and agreements are subject to public bidding, in order to address the concerns of taxpayers regarding political contributions and to engender trust in the process of local government and to insure that quality public services are received;

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has enacted *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5* which bars any municipality, agency, board, authority or instrumentality thereof from entering into a contract in excess of \$17,500.00 with a business entity that has made a political contribution reportable pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-1 et. seq.* to any municipal committee of a political party in that municipality if a member of that political party is serving in an elective public office of that municipality when the contract is awarded or to any candidate committee of any person serving in an elective public office of that municipality when the contract is awarded unless said contract is awarded pursuant to a fair and open process; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance shall apply to those services, contracts, etc. described above, beginning January 1, 2006; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance shall apply to all Municipal appointing authorities, to include the Office of the Mayor, municipal governing body, planning board, and zoning board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of West Deptford, County of Gloucester and State of New Jersey, that the Township of West Deptford enact an Ordinance to be known as an Ordinance Establishing a Fair and Open Process for the Award of Professional Service Agreements and Other Agreements with Business Entities as consistent with the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5, et seq.*, and said Ordinance shall read as follows:

An Ordinance Establishing a Fair and Open Process for the Award of Professional Service Agreements and Other Agreements with Business Entities

I. Prohibition Awarding Certain Public Contracts

Any other provision of the law to the contrary notwithstanding, the Township or any board, authority, agency or instrumentality thereof (hereinafter referred to as "Municipal Appointing Authority"), shall not enter into a contract having an anticipated value in excess of \$17,500.00 as determined in advance and certified in writing by the Municipal Appointing Authority, or its designee, with a business entity, except a contract that is awarded pursuant to a fair and open process, if, during the preceding one year period, that business entity has made political contributions that are reportable by the recipient under *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-1 et seq.*, to any municipal committee of a political party in the Township if a member of that political party is serving in an elective public office of the Township when the contract is awarded or to any candidate committee of any person serving in an elective public office of the Township when the contract is awarded; and

A business entity that has entered into a contract having an anticipated value in excess of \$17,500 with the Municipal Appointing Authority, except a contract that is awarded pursuant to a fair and open process, shall not make such a contribution, reportable by the recipient under *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-1 et seq.*, during the term of the contract, to any municipal committee of a political party in the Township if a member of that political party is serving in an elective public office of the Township when the contract is awarded, or to any candidate committee of any person serving in an elective public office of the Township when the contract is awarded, during the term of the contract. In the alternative to proceeding with the fair and open process described herein, the Municipal Appointing Authority thereof may award a contract to a business entity for an amount in excess of \$17,500, pursuant to procedures prescribed by the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law and without competitive bidding or competitive proposals. However, such award may be made only if the recipient of the contract provides a written certification that it has not made a political contribution which would bar the award of the contract to it.

II. Fair and Open Process

A. Any professional service entity or other business entity providing services to the Township shall be subject to a fair and open process for selection. That fair and open process shall be set forth in subsection B below which shall establish a criteria for the fair and open process. Included in that criteria and made a part hereof, shall be some or all of the following: accessibility; understanding of the assignment; methodology/plan for accomplishing the assignment; general experience; experience specific to the assignment; sufficiency of resources to perform the task.

B. The fair and open process established by the Township shall require the following:

(1) The solicitation of proposals or qualifications for any professional position, service contract, or other contract not subject to bidding pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 40A:11-5, that shall expire as of December 31 of that calendar year shall be published and advertised by the Municipal Appointing Authority or its designee either in the official newspaper of the Township for publication of notices, or on the Township's website in sufficient time to give notice in advance of the contract solicitation. The published notice shall set forth the name of the position or contract which is to become open, set forth the criteria to be considered and materials required to be submitted by the applicant/proposer and a date, time and place when the proposals or qualifications shall be publically opened.

(2) Should the applicant/proposer be a professional acquiring licensure in the State of New Jersey, said applicant/proposer shall be licensed for a period not less than five (5) years.

(3) If the applicant/proposer is not a professional and/or the contract to be awarded is not a professional services contract, the applicant/proposer shall provide a "Certificate of Good Standing" or other similar document evidencing that it is authorized to do business in the State of New Jersey.

(4) The applicant/proposer shall submit a resume which shall set forth information including, but not limited to the following (as applicable to a business entity or individual professional):

- (a) Full name and business address;
- (b) A listing of all post high school education of the applicant/proposer;
- (c) Dates of licensure in the State of New Jersey and any other State;
- (d) A listing of any professional affiliations or memberships in any professional societies or organizations, with an indication as to any offices held therein;
- (e) The number of licensed professionals employed by/affiliated with the business entity or the business entity which employs the applicant/proposer;
- (f) A listing of all special accreditations held by the individual licensed professional or business entity;
- (g) A listing of all previous public entities served by the business entity or licensed professional, indicating the dates of services and position held; and

C. The Municipal Appointing Authority shall thereafter publicly select the professional or business entity for the position so advertised which shall thereafter be confirmed or approved as required by law or Ordinance.

D. The awarded contract shall be publicized in the official newspaper of the Township for publication of notices in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5*.

E. Consistent with the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7*, the Township's determination of what constitutes a fair and open process shall be final. Fair and open may necessarily be implemented differently for different categories of procurement depending on the subject matter of the procurement, and the nature and nuances of the industry providing the services or product, but in every instance, the principles of fair and open shall be maintained.

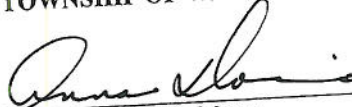
F. If any sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any persons or circumstances shall be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, or if by legislative action, any sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance shall lose its force and effect, such judgment or action shall not affect, impair, or void the remainder of any of the provisions of this Ordinance.

G. The purpose of this Ordinance is to comply with the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5, et seq.* The definitions as set forth in that statute are referred to and incorporated into this Ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this Ordinance will take effect after adoption and publication according to law.

TOWNSHIP OF WEST DEPTFORD

By:


ANNA DOCIMO, Mayor

ATTEST:


RAYMOND L. SHERMAN, Clerk

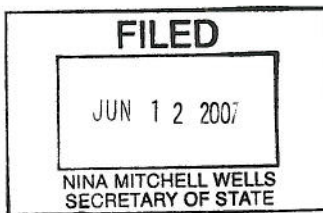
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading on the 8th day of September 2005, at a regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of West Deptford and will be taken up for final consideration and passage at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of West Deptford to be held on the 6th day of October 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 400 Crown Point Road, Thorofare, New Jersey.


RAYMOND L. SHERMAN, Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF WEST DEPTFORD

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an Ordinance of the Township of West Deptford Establishing a Fair and Open Process for the Award of Professional Service Agreements and Other Agreements with Business Entities was passed on second reading by the Township Committee at its meeting of October 6, 2005 held at the Municipal Building located at 400 Crown Point Road, Thorofare, New Jersey, after a public hearing was held thereon. Copies of the Ordinance are available for inspection in the Office of the Township Clerk.



Marjorie Rowand
MARJORIE ROWAND, Deputy Clerk