

July 16, 2009

Robert E. Coyle  
Designated Agency Ethics Official  
Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, DC 20528-3650

Dear Mr. Coyle:

The purpose of this letter is to describe the steps that I will take to avoid any actual or apparent conflict of interest in the event that I am confirmed for the position of Deputy Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

As required by 18 U.S.C. § 208(a), I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that has a direct and predictable effect on my financial interests or those of any person whose interests are imputed to me, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2). I understand that the interests of the following persons are imputed to me: any spouse or minor child of mine; any general partner of a partnership in which I am a limited or general partner; any organization in which I serve as officer, director, trustee, general partner or employee; and any person or organization with which I am negotiating or have an arrangement concerning prospective employment.

Upon confirmation, I will retire from my position of Chief, Emergency Medical Services, Boston Public Health Commission. Following my retirement, I will continue to participate in the Massachusetts State Retirement Plan, a defined benefit pension plan. I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that has a direct and predictable effect on the ability or willingness of the State of Massachusetts to provide this contractual benefit to me, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2). I also will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matters involving specific parties in which Boston Public Health Commission is a party or represents a party for one year after my resignation unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

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In October 2008 I served as a consultant for Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC). My service ended on October 17, 2008. For a period of one year from October 17, 2008, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which SAIC is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

Upon confirmation, I will resign from my positions as Board Chair, American Red Cross of Massachusetts, Board Member, International Association of EMS Chiefs, and Board Member, Metropolitan Boston Emergency Medical Service Council. For a period of one year after my resignation, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which any of these organizations is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

My spouse is employed as a Registered Nurse at Boston Medical Center, a position for which she receives an hourly rate of pay. I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that has a direct and predictable effect on my spouse's compensation or employment with Boston Medical Center. I also will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matters involving specific parties in which Boston Medical Center is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

Finally, I understand that as an appointee I am required to sign the Ethics Pledge (Exec. Order No. 13490) and that I will be bound by the requirements and restrictions therein in addition to the commitments that I have made in this or any other ethics agreement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard A. Serino". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "S".

Richard A. Serino