

IDENTITY OF INTEREST WITH VENDORS TO AUTHORITY OR ARRA-FINANCED DEVELOPMENTS

PART 10.

R 125.201 Applicability

Rule 201. The rules contained in this part shall apply to all transactions that involve the supply of goods and services to authority-financed housing developments between the owners or the management agents of the developments and vendors who supply goods or services to those developments.

R 125.202 Identity of interest; "member of the family" defined.

Rule 202. (1) Any contractual relationship between either an owner or management agent and a vendor described in subrule (2) of this rule shall constitute an identity of interest.

(2) An identity of interest shall exist if any of the following conditions occurs:

(a) Either the owner or management agent, or any officer, director, stockholder, partner, or joint venturer or either the owner or management agent, has a financial interest in the vendor.

(b) Either the owner or management agent, or any officer, director, stockholder, partner, or joint venturer of either the owner or management agent, is also an officer, director, stockholder, partner, or joint venturer of the vendor.

(c) Either the owner or management agent, or any officer, director, stockholder, partner, or joint venturer of either the owner or management agent, is also the vendor.

(d) A member of the family of either the owner or management agent, or of any officer, director, stockholder, partner, or joint venturer of either the owner or management agent, is the vendor or an officer, director, stockholder, partner, or joint venturer of the vendor or has a financial interest in the vendor. For purposes of this part, "member of the family" means any person who is related to the party in question by blood, marriage, or operation of law.

R 125.203 Requirements for conducting business with identity of interest vendors.

Rule 203. Owners and management agents shall conform to all of the following requirements when conducting business with vendors with whom there is an identity of interest:

(a) Both the owner and management agent shall inform the authority division of management and reinvestment of any proposed vendor with whom there is an identity of interest. Such notification shall be submitted concurrent with submission of the development operating budget, but at least once per year.

(b) The owner and management agent shall submit a certified disclosure for each proposed vendor with whom there is an identity of interest which lists the names of all of the following persons:

(i) All owners and managers of vendors that are sole proprietorships.

(ii) All copartners or general partners of vendors that are copartnerships or limited partnerships.

(iii) All joint venturers of vendors that are joint ventures.

(iv) All directors, officers, and shareholders of vendors that are corporations.

(c) The certified disclosure shall list, for each person described in subdivision (b) of this rule the names of the individuals involved with the owner or management agent with whom there is an identity of interest and the extent or degree of such identity of interest. The certified disclosure shall also contain other information as the authority shall require, such as the following:

(i) Federal tax identification number of all vendors with whom there is identity of interest.

(ii) The location of all offices that contain business records of the vendors with whom

there is an identity of interest.

(iii) The names and addresses of the bookkeepers and accountants of the vendors with whom there is an identity of interest.

(d) The certified disclosure shall be submitted on such form as shall be designated by the authority and shall be submitted together with the submission described in subdivision (a) of this rule, or if the proposed vendor is not listed on such submission, at the time the owner or management agent requests approval to contract with a proposed vendor with whom there is an identity of interest.

(e) The owner and management agent shall submit, together with its certified disclosure, a copy of the organizational documents for each proposed vendor with whom an identity of interest is shared.

(f) The authority shall have the right to audit the books of the vendor with whom there is an identity of interest to determine whether amounts paid to identity of interest vendors were reasonable and whether there has been compliance with applicable restrictions on return. The owner, management agent, and proposed vendor shall acknowledge the authority's right to conduct such an audit in the certified disclosure.

(g) Both the owner and management agent shall submit, to the authority, a request for approval to use a proposed vendor with whom there is an identity of interest. Neither the owner nor management agent shall contract for goods or services from any vendor with whom there is an identity of interest until the proposed vendor and contract amount is approved by the Authority. If an owner or management agent enters a contract for goods or services beyond the goods or services previously approved by the authority, or if the contract price increases beyond the prices previously approved by the authority, then an additional approval shall be obtained.

(h) The authority may, upon a request from the owner or management agent and after review of the disclosure required pursuant to the provisions of subdivisions (b) to (f) of this rule, determine that the identity of interest between the owner and agent is insignificant. If such a determination is made, the owner and management agent need not comply with the provisions of subdivision (i) of this rule.

(i) Unless compliance with this subdivision is excused pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (h) of this rule, all requests for approval of proposed vendors shall be accompanied by a detailed explanation of the goods or services to be provided by the proposed vendor and not less than 3 bids for such goods and services. The 3 bids shall include a bid from the vendor with whom there is an identity of interest.

(j) Requests for approval of a proposed vendor shall be submitted concurrent with the submission of the development operating budget and any other time that the owner or management agent wishes to contract with a vendor with whom there is an identity of interest. However, a proposed vendor and contract amount need be approved only one time per operating year per development, unless the vendor supplies goods or services beyond the goods or services previously approved by the authority or the contract price increases beyond the prices previously approved by the authority.

R 125.204 Sanctions; "excessive costs" defined.

Rule 204. (1) If an owner or management agent is found to be in violation of these rules concerning identity of interest, the authority, or the officers or employees to whom it shall delegate authority, may impose the following sanctions in addition to any other remedies available through contractual documents or at law or equity:

(a) On the first occurrence of a violation, either or both of the following sanctions may be imposed:

(i) The owner or management agent may be required to reimburse the development operating account for all excessive costs, as determined by the authority, incurred as a result of

the contract with the vendor with whom there is an identity of interest.

(ii) The owner and management agent found to be in violation may be prohibited from using any vendor with whom there is an identity of interest for a period of 1 year.

(b) For each violation after the first, the following sanctions may be imposed, as applicable:

(i) The owner or management agent may be required to reimburse the development operating account for all excessive costs, as determined by the authority, incurred as a result of the contract with the vendor with whom there is an identity of interest.

(ii) If the violation involves a vendor who has an identity of interest with the management agent, then either or both of the following sanctions may be imposed:

(A) The management agent's management agreement may be terminated and a new management agent shall be hired.

(B) The vendor who shares the identity of interest with the management agent may be barred from doing business with other authority-financed developments managed by the same management agent.

(iii) If the violation involves a vendor who has an identity of interest with the owner, then the owner and its management agent may be prohibited from doing business with the particular vendor at the development in question for a period of 5 years.

(2) As used in this rule, the term "excessive costs" means all costs which would not have been incurred by the development if the owner or management agent, or both, had exercised reasonable business judgment and obtained only those goods and services reasonably necessary for operation of the development at competitive prices.