



MONTGOMERY COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

Steven Rosen
Chair

Kenita V. Barrow
Vice Chair

September 1, 2016

Waiver 16-08-017

Pursuant to § 19A-12(b)(1)(B) of the Public Ethics Law, a public employee must not be employed by a business that negotiates or contracts with the County agency with which the public employee is affiliated, unless the Ethics Commission grants a waiver.

Dorné Hill is the In-Home Consolidated Services Supervisor with Child Welfare Services (CWS) at the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). She requests a waiver of the prohibition of § 19A-12(b)(1)(B) so that she can be employed as a Crisis Therapist at the Emergency Department of Suburban Hospital (Suburban).

DHHS has contracts with Suburban for various services, but none of the contracts involve CWS. Ms. Hill's outside employment with Suburban is not funded by nor has any relationship to the contracts DHHS has with Suburban, and her employment with DHHS as a supervisory therapist has no relation to the contracts the County has with Suburban.

Pursuant to § 19A-8(b)(3) of the Public Ethics Law, the Ethics Commission may grant a waiver of the prohibition of § 19A-12(b) if the Ethics Commission concludes that the proposed employment is not likely to create an actual conflict of interest. Upon a review of the request and the Department's concurrence in and support for the waiver request, the Commission finds that there is no actual conflict of interest. Pursuant to the standard of § 19A-8(b)(3), the Commission grants the waiver of the prohibition of § 19A-12(b). The waiver is conditioned on Ms. Hill not referring, in her County capacity, DHHS clients to Suburban and on her not working, while at Suburban, with any clients of her program at DHHS.

In reaching this decision, the Commission has relied upon the facts as presented by Ms. Hill.

For the Commission:

Steven Rosen, Chair

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