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Campaign Finance Board 100 Church Street, 12th Floor

New York, NY 10007

Re: Campaign Finance Board

Evaluation of Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Practices

Audit Period: January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018

Determination: PRELIMINARY

Dear Executive Director Loprest:

On behalf of the members of the Equal Employment Practices Commission (EEPC), thank you and your agency for the cooperation extended to our staff thus far. This letter contains the EEPC's evaluation and preliminary determinations pursuant to the Campaign Finance Board's Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Practices for the period covering January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018.

#### <u>Purpose</u>

Chapter 36, Sections 830(a) and 831(d)(2) and (5) of the New York City Charter (Charter) authorize the EEPC to audit, review, evaluate, and monitor the employment practices, procedures, and programs of city agencies and other municipal entities, hereinafter "entities," and their efforts to ensure fair and effective equal employment opportunity (EEO) for women and minority employees and applicants. Charter Sections 831(d)(2) and 832(c) authorize the EEPC to make a determination that any plan, program, procedure, approach, measure, or standard does not provide equal employment opportunity, require appropriate corrective action, and monitor the implementation of the corrective action prescribed.

The Campaign Finance Board, hereinafter simply termed "agency" or "entity," falls within the EEPC's purview under Chapter 36, Sections 830(a) and 831(a) of the Charter, to review, evaluate, and monitor the coordination and implementation of affirmative employment programs of equal employment opportunity for any "city, county, borough or other office, administration, board, department, division, commission, bureau, corporation, authority, or other agency of government where the majority of the board members of such agency are appointed by the mayor or serve by virtue of being city officers or the expenses of which are paid in whole or in part from the city treasury..."

The purpose of this audit and analysis is to evaluate the subject matter referenced, not to issue findings of discrimination pursuant to the New York City Human Rights Law.



#### Scope

The EEPC has adopted uniform standards for auditing municipal entities¹ and minimum standards for auditing Community Boards (collectively "Standards") to review, evaluate, and monitor entities' employment and EEO-related practices, procedures, approaches, measures, standards, and programs. These standards are founded upon, and consistent with federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and policies and procedures to increase equal opportunity for women, minorities, and other employees and job applicants identified for protection from discrimination. Corrective actions prescribed are consistent with the aforementioned parameters including, but not limited to, the City of New York's *Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, Standards and Procedures to Be Utilized by City Agencies 2014*, as amended (Citywide EEO Policy); the New York City Human Rights Law (New York City Administrative Code Title 8); New York State Human Rights Law (New York Executive Law, Article 15); the New York State Civil Service Law §55-a; and the equal employment opportunity requirements of the New York City Charter.

#### Policy and Plan Requirements

The aforementioned Standards require, at minimum, that mayoral entities distribute the Citywide EEO Policy; non-mayoral entities establish or adopt a comprehensive EEO policy; and Community Boards, which are comprised of members appointed by the respective Borough Presidents, adopt and distribute the corresponding Borough President's EEO Policy.

Because the EEPC is authorized to review and recommend actions that each entity should consider including in its annual plan of measures and programs to provide equal employment opportunity, or Annual EEO Plan, entities are also required to incorporate the EEPC's corrective actions in prospective Annual EEO Plans and programs.

#### Methodology

The EEPC communicates with EEO professionals (including, but not limited to, past or current EEO Officers, Deputy or Co-EEO Officers, EEO Counselors, EEO Trainers, EEO Investigators, Disability Rights Coordinators, Career Counselors, and 55-a Program Coordinators) and other employees identified as having involvement in EEO program administration such as the Principal Human Resources Professional and relevant Counsel.

The EEPC's audit methodology includes review of the agency's Annual EEO Plans and Quarterly EEO Reports; analysis of workforce and utilization data; and the collection and analysis of documents, records, and data an entity and its representatives provide in response to the Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Preliminary Interview Questionnaires (PIQs). All PIQs contain requests to attach supporting documentation for the answer options selected.

EEO Professionals designated for online interviews are assigned a three-week deadline to complete and return the PIQs. The EEPC's PIQ(s)/requests were sent to the Campaign Finance Board on February 4, 2019; the completed PIQ(s) were returned on March 3, 2019. Supporting documentation was attached. Additional requests for information were made on April 1, 2019, April 25, 2019, and May 13, 2019.

The following determination indicates where the Campaign Finance Board has or has not complied, in whole or in part, with the established Standards.

#### Description of the Agency

The Campaign Finance Board (CFB) is an independent non-partisan agency that provides public funding to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Corresponding audit/analysis standards are numbered throughout the document.



candidates for City elective offices who choose to participate in the City's public financing program and monitors candidates' campaign contributions and expenditures to assure that they conform to the requirements of the law. The Campaign Finance Board makes public disclosure of the candidates' and independent spenders campaign finances and publishes a non-partisan Voter Guide for each regularly scheduled City election, providing information on candidates, ballot proposals and voting assistance. The Campaign Finance Board also administers the official debate program for candidates for citywide office. The Board has five members, two are appointed by the Mayor and two by the Speaker of the City Council. The Chair is appointed by the Mayor after consultation with the Speaker. The Board with the advice and assistance of its voter assistance advisory committee is charged with encouraging and facilitating voting under its NYC Votes initiative. (Source: The Green Book, 3/2019).

The Campaign Finance Board's total workforce at the end of the audit period in review was 105 employees<sup>2</sup>.

#### PRELIMINARY DETERMINATIONS AFTER AUDIT AND ANALYSIS

Following are the corresponding audit standards for each subject area along with the EEPC's findings and required corrective actions, where appropriate:

#### I. SHPRA - Issuance, Distribution And Posting of EEO Policies

Determination: The agency is in partial-compliance with the standards for this subject area.

- **1.** Issue a Policy Statement or memorandum reiterating commitment to the prevention of sexual harassment annually.
- ✓ On September 14, 2018, the Campaign Finance Board's Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy Statement³ was distributed to all staff via email by the Executive Director and also discussed at an all staff meeting conducted by the principal EEO Professional and Executive Director. The Sexual Harassment Policy Statement affirmed the Campaign Finance Board's commitment to the prevention of sexual harassment by stating: "[s]exual harassment is a form of employment discrimination prohibited by the City's EEO Policy and law. All Campaign Finance Board employees should be familiar with the City's and the CFB's EEO Policies' protections against sexual harassment... Sexual Harassment is strictly prohibited. Employees who violate this policy are subject to discipline, including termination." Additionally, during the period in review the Human Resources Hub on the Campaign Finance Board's intranet stated, "[a]II CFB staff are entitled to a workplace free of harassment, including sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is strictly prohibited under federal, state, and NYC law and will not be tolerated at the CFB."
- ➤ The Campaign Finance Board did not demonstrate that a policy statement or memorandum reiterating commitment to the prevention of sexual harassment was issued annually. <u>Corrective Action Required</u>.

NOTE: Subsequent to the period in review, a screenshot of the Human Resources Hub documented

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Based on the Citywide Equal Employment Database System (CEEDS) report: Workforce Composition Summary attached as Appendix 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Campaign Finance Board's Sexual Harassment Policy Statement is attached as Appendix 2.



that the Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy Statement was posted on the Campaign Finance Board's intranet where it was accessible to all employees. Additionally, the Campaign Finance Board reported that the Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy Statement would be re-issued in 2019.

2. Distribute/Post a paper or electronic copy of the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, Standards and Procedures to Be Utilized by City Agencies – or an agency Policy that conforms to city, state and federal laws against sexual harassment– for use by managers, supervisors, and legal, human resources and EEO professionals. Include, or attach as addenda: uniform and responsive procedures for investigating discrimination/sexual harassment complaints, and current contact information for the agency's EEO professionals as well as federal, state and local agencies that enforce laws against discrimination/sexual harassment.

✓ On February 15, 2018, all employees received a link via email to the CFB Employee Handbook 2018 (Employee Handbook), which contained the CFB Equal Employment Opportunity Policy and Complaint Procedure<sup>4</sup> (CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure). During the period in review, the CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure; the City of New York's Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, Standards and Procedures to Be Utilized by City Agencies<sup>5</sup> (City's EEO Policy); the City of New York's EEO Policy Handbook: About EEO: What You May Not Know (City's EEO Policy Handbook), and the EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines, City of New York 20166 (City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines), were posted on the Campaign Finance Board's intranet, where they were accessible to all employees. The current contact information for the Campaign Finance Board's EEO professionals was also posted in the Human Resources Hub on the CFB's intranet. The Campaign Finance Board reported that it distributed the City's EEO Policy and the City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines; and the CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure served as a condensed summary of the CFB's EEO policies and complaint procedures provided to employees within the Employee Handbook. The Campaign Finance Board also reported that the CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure was intended to fill any gaps on CFB specific areas not directly addressed by the City's EEO Policy. provided information on areas where the CFB wants to go beyond what the City's policies required, and provided the contact information for the CFB's EEO professionals. The CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure, City's EEO Policy, City's EEO Policy Handbook, and the City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines all contained sections on sexual harassment; procedures for investigating discrimination complaints; and the contact information for the federal, state, and local agencies that enforce laws against discrimination. Additionally, the Campaign Finance Board reported that for the duration of the period in review, new hires met with the principal EEO Professional and/or EEO Counselors during orientation and were provided with the aforementioned policies and procedures.

NOTE: The City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines that the CFB distributed is no longer current. The CFB should distribute the updated version of this document, EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines, City of New York 2018<sup>7</sup>. The Campaign Finance Board also distributed both the City's EEO policies, and the CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure. To avoid confusion for employees, especially when there may be differences or inconsistencies between the policies, the EEPC recommends that the CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure be updated. Alternately, the CFB should advise its employees which policy is the controlling policy and what purpose the non-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The CFB Equal Employment Opportunity Policy and Complaint Procedure is attached as Appendix 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The City of New York's Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, Standards and Procedures to Be Utilized by City Agencies is attached as Appendix 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines, City of New York 2016 is attached as Appendix 5.

Located at http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/downloads/pdf/misc/eeo\_complaint\_procedural\_quidelines\_2018.pdf



controlling policy serves (e.g. to fill any gaps on CFB specific areas not directly addressed by the *City*'s *EEO Policy* and provide information on areas where the CFB wants to go beyond what the City's policies require).

➤ The CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure did not include the following as part of its uniform and responsive procedures for investigating complaints: a requirement to issue/maintain written confirmation when an internal complaint/mediation is terminated, withdrawn or resolved by agreement of the parties or EEO Office; a requirement to take thorough notes, of words spoken and facts provided, during each interview, and include these notes in each complaint file; a requirement that in rare circumstances where a complaint investigation cannot commence immediately, or where a conclusive report cannot be issued within the timeframe set forth in the CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure, to specify in the complaint file the reason for the delay, and a projected timeframe for completion of the report, and notify the complainant and respondent of the delay; a requirement that the complainant and respondent are notified in writing of the conclusion and outcome of their complaint investigation; and a requirement that the complainant and respondent be notified in writing when the investigation by the EEO Professional has been transferred because of the filing of an external complaint. Additionally, the CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure did not include salary history or uniformed service as classes protected from employment discrimination. Corrective Action Required.

<u>Corrective Action #1</u>: Distribute/Post a paper or electronic copy of the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, Standards and Procedures to Be Utilized by City Agencies — or an agency Policy that conforms to city, state and federal laws against sexual harassment— for use by managers, supervisors, and legal, human resources and EEO professionals. Include, or attach as addenda: uniform and responsive procedures for investigating discrimination/sexual harassment complaints, and current contact information for the agency's EEO professionals as well as federal, state and local agencies that enforce laws against discrimination/sexual harassment.

#### II. SHPRA - Training for the Agency

Determination: The agency is in compliance with the standards for this subject area.

- 3. Establish and implement a training plan for new and existing employees to ensure that all individuals who work within the agency, including managers and supervisors, receive training on the prevention of sexual harassment as well as discrimination complaint and investigation procedures.
- ✓ The Campaign Finance Board required every employee, including managers, supervisors and new hires, to complete instructor-led EEO training conducted by the CFB's EEO professionals. The instructor-led EEO training contained sections on sexual harassment prevention, bystander intervention, and the CFB's complaint procedures. Sign-in sheets document that all employees completed the instructor-led EEO training between January 2018 and April 2018. Additionally, the CFB required all employees to complete the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) Sexual Harassment Prevention: What to Know About Unlawful and Inappropriate Behaviors in the Workplace (Sexual Harassment Prevention) computer-based training. A DCAS Sexual Harassment Prevention Training Report indicated that as of December 31, 2018, all employees had completed the training. The DCAS Sexual Harassment Prevention training description stated that the training



covered the "definitions of sexual harassment, relevant legislation, prevention techniques and a procedure for filing a complaint."

#### III. SHPRA - Complaint and Investigation Procedures

**Summary of Complaint Activity:** The agency reported 1 internal and 0 external complaints were filed during the period in review.

Determination: The agency is in compliance with the standards for this subject area.

- **4.** Include in the complaint file a completed Complaint Intake Form, or a written complaint that captures facts (including pertinent dates) that identify the respondent(s) with reasonable specificity and provide the essence of the circumstances which gave rise to the complaint.
- ✓ The complaint file submitted contained a written complaint that captured facts (including pertinent dates) that identified the respondents with reasonable specificity and provided the essence of the circumstances which gave rise to the complaint. Additionally, the Campaign Finance Board's complaint form entitled, *Complaint of Discrimination Form*, included areas to capture pertinent dates, the supervisor(s) name, the name(s) title(s) and unit(s) of the respondent(s), the location of the incident, witnesses present, the EEO basis of the discrimination, if the incident was reported, and a description of the circumstances which gave rise to the complaint.
- **5.** Provide the option to file a complaint anonymously.
- ✓ The option to file a complaint anonymously was provided in the CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure which stated, "[y]ou have the right to make anonymous complaints by telephoning or writing the EEO Officer or one of the EEO Counselors." Additionally, the option to file a complaint anonymously was provided on the Discrimination of Complaint Form. Furthermore, the curriculum for EEO training conducted in January and April 2018 indicated that employees were made aware of this option during training (see § II.3 for training details).

NOTE: The option to file a complaint anonymously was also provided in the City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines and the City's EEO Policy. The City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines stated, "[t]he person making the complaint may do so anonymously, if he or she chooses." The City's EEO Policy stated, "[p]ersons who wish to discuss a possible violation of this Policy without revealing their identity may do so by telephoning or writing the EEO office."

- **6.** Serve the respondent with a notice of the complaint that includes the respondent's right to respond to the allegations and right to be accompanied by a representative of his/her choice. Maintain in the complaint file documentation regarding the service of notice on the respondent.
- ✓ The CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure stated, "[a]t the beginning of the investigation... [t]he respondent will be notified of the allegations forming the basis of the complaint and will be given an opportunity to respond to the allegations ... [i]f you are interviewed during the course of an EEO investigation, you have the right to be accompanied by a representative of your choice." This is



consistent with the requirements of the City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines which stated, "[t]he EEO Office must serve Respondent with a notice of complaint along with a redacted copy of the complaint or a summary of the complaint and allegations... [s]chedule a meeting with Respondent, ensuring that Respondent is informed of the right to be accompanied by a representative... Inform respondent of the right to respond in writing to the complaint."

> The complaint file submitted did not include documentation regarding the service of notice of the complaint on the respondents. **Corrective Action Required**.

NOTE: Subsequent to the period in review, in order to demonstrate CFB's current process for conducting and documenting complaint investigations, the CFB submitted a completed complaint, file ID: *EEO Inquiry 2019-1* (henceforth referred to as EEO complaint file No. 2019-1). EEO complaint file No. 2019-1 that was completed in June 2019, included documentation regarding the service of notice of the complaint on the respondent. The service of notice included the respondent's right to respond to the allegations and right to be accompanied by a representative of his/her choice.

- 7. Issue/maintain written confirmation when an internal complaint/mediation is terminated, withdrawn or resolved by agreement of the parties or EEO Office.
- ✓ Because the complaint submitted was not terminated, withdrawn or resolved by agreement of the parties or EEO Office, the CFB's procedures were used to measure compliance with this standard. The City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines stated, "[i]f the parties agree to a resolution during mediation, a resolution agreement will be drafted and provided to the parties and the referring EEO Officer... [a] party may withdraw from mediation at any time... [t]he EEO Office must inform all parties to the complaint, in writing, of the termination of mediation." Furthermore, the City's EEO Policy stated, "[w]ithdrawal of a complaint must be made or confirmed in writing" and "[m]ediation may be terminated by any party to the mediation. If this occurs, the EEO Officer will inform the other party or parties in writing that the mediation has been terminated."

<u>NOTE</u>: The *CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure* did not include a requirement to issue/maintain written confirmation when an internal complaint/mediation is terminated, withdrawn or resolved by agreement of the parties or EEO Office (see § I.2 for associated corrective action).

- **8.** Take thorough notes, of words spoken and facts provided, during each interview. Include these notes in each complaint file.
- $\checkmark$  The complaint file submitted contained thorough notes of words spoken and facts provided during each interview. Additionally, the City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines set forth the following requirement, "[d]uring each interview, take thorough notes, as close to verbatim as possible. Notes should reflect the content of the interview, both the questions and answers, as completely as possible."

<u>NOTE</u>: The *CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure* did not include a requirement to take thorough notes of words spoken and facts provided during each interview and to include those notes in each complaint file (see § I.2 for associated corrective action).



- **9.** Issue a conclusive report within 90 days of the date the complaint was filed. Commence an investigation immediately if allegations raised sufficiently warrant an investigation.
- ✓ The conclusive report for the complaint file submitted was issued within 90 calendar days of the date the complaint was filed. Additionally, the CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure stated, "[e]mployees are urged to follow this procedure immediately... The mediation and conciliation process is designed to conclude within 45 working days from the time the complaint is filed [and] [t]he written report will be provided to the Executive Director within 30 days after the commencement of the investigation." The CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure required issuance of the conclusive report within 75 days, which is within the requirement of the City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines that stated, "[t]he complaint investigation should begin immediately after a determination that the allegations raised, if true, are sufficient to establish discrimination... [t]he complaint investigation should be completed... within 90 calendar days of the filing of a complaint... [t]he final investigative report must be completed and the parties notified of the outcome within 90 calendar days from the date the complaint was filed with the EEO Office."
- **10.** In rare circumstances where a complaint investigation cannot commence immediately, or where a conclusive report cannot be issued within 90 days, specify in the complaint file the reason for the delay and project a time frame for completion of the report. Notify the complainant and respondent of the delay.
- ✓ The conclusive report for the complaint file submitted was issued within 90 days. Additionally, the CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure stated, "[t]he written report will be provided to the Executive Director within 30 days after commencement of the investigation, except if the EEO Officer and/or designee determines that there are circumstances warranting an extension of the time period to issue the written report to the Executive Director." Furthermore, the City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines stated, "[t]he final investigative report must be completed... within 90 calendar days... unless the time period is extended by the EEO Office for good cause, with written notice to the parties and memorialized in the investigative file and/or the complaint tracking system. The EEO Office must document the reason for the delay, and project a time frame for the completion of the report."

NOTE: The CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure did not require, in rare circumstances where a complaint investigation cannot commence immediately, or where a conclusive report cannot be issued within the time period specified, that the complainant and respondent be notified of the delay and the complaint file contain the reason for the delay and a projected time frame for completion of the report (see § I.2 for associated corrective action).

- **11.** Generate at the end of each complaint investigation, a conclusive confidential report which includes a summary of the allegations and responses, a summary of the procedural history of the investigation, a statement of the relevant facts gathered, a determination, a recommendation and documentation of the Agency Head's Review.
- ✓ The complaint file submitted contained a conclusive report generated at the end of the complaint investigation. The conclusive report included a summary of the allegations and responses, a summary of the procedural history of the investigation, a statement of the relevant facts gathered, a



determination, and a recommendation. Additionally, the CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure stated, "[a]t the conclusion of this process, the EEO Officer and/or her designee will make a confidential written report of the investigation findings to... the Executive Director of the CFB, and will recommend appropriate corrective action... [t]he Executive Director will review the report of the EEO Officer... and promptly issue a determination, adopting, rejecting, or modifying the recommended action... [t]his determination shall be in writing to the EEO Officer." This is consistent with the City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines which stated, "[a]fter all the relevant facts have been gathered, the EEO Officer must prepare a confidential written report on the complaint investigation and must submit the report to the Agency Head for review... [t]he written report should include a summary of the allegations and responses, a summary of the procedural history of the investigation, a statement of the relevant facts gathered during the investigation, a conclusion/determination and recommendation... [t]he Agency Head must sign each written report and indicate that it has been reviewed."

➤ The complaint file submitted did not contain documentation of the agency head's review and/or approval of the conclusive report. Corrective Action Required.

NOTE: Subsequent to the period in review, the CFB submitted EEO complaint file No. 2019-1 that was completed in June 2019. EEO complaint file No. 2019-1 contained a conclusive report that included a summary of the allegations and responses, a summary of the procedural history of the investigation, a statement of the relevant facts gathered, a determination, a recommendation and documentation of the agency head's review.

- **12.** Maintain complaint files in a secure area and ensure that they can be located and reviewed by the agency head, agency general counsel, and other appropriate staff identified by the agency head.
- ✓ The CFB reported that hard copy complaint files were maintained in a secured file cabinet in both the principal EEO Professional's Office and the Human Resources' Office and were accessible to the agency head and General Counsel upon request. Additionally, electronic versions of the complaint files were stored in a secured electronic file/folder and accessible to appropriate staff upon request.
- **13.** Establish and implement a policy whereby the agency head (or an approved direct report other than the General Counsel) reviews the principal investigator's conclusive report; issues a written/electronic determination adopting, rejecting, or modifying the recommended action; and signs each determination, via writing or electronically, to indicate it has been reviewed and adopted.
- ✓ The CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure stated, "[t]he Executive Director will review the report of the EEO Officer... and promptly issue a determination, adopting, rejecting, or modifying the recommended action... [t]his determination shall be in writing to the EEO Officer." This is consistent with requirements of the City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines and the City's EEO Policy. The City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines stated, "[a]fter all the relevant facts have been gathered, the EEO Officer must prepare a confidential report on the complaint investigation and must submit the report to the Agency Head for review... [t]he Agency Head must sign each written report and indicate that it has been reviewed and whether the determination and recommendation, if any, is adopted, rejected or modified." Additionally, the City's EEO Policy stated, "The EEO Officer will submit a confidential report of the complaint investigation to the agency head at the conclusion of the investigation... the EEO Officer will recommend appropriate corrective action. The agency head will



review the EEO Officer's report and promptly issue a determination adopting, rejecting or modifying the recommended action. Such determination shall be in writing and may be issued electronically."

➤ The conclusive report for the complaint file submitted was not signed by the agency head (or an approved direct report other than the General Counsel) indicating it was reviewed and the determination adopted. Corrective Action Required.

<u>NOTE</u>: Subsequent to the period in review, the CFB submitted EEO complaint file No. 2019-1 that was completed in June 2019. The conclusive report for EEO complaint file No. 2019-1 was signed by the agency head indicating it was reviewed and the determination adopted.

- **14.** Inform each complainant and respondent of the conclusion and outcome of their complaint investigation in writing as part of the agency's complaint procedure.
- ✓ Because the complaint submitted was anonymous it did not include a written notice to the complainant of the conclusion and outcome of the complaint investigation. Additionally, the City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines stated, "[a]fter review of the report by the Agency Head, the EEO Office should inform all parties in writing of the outcome of the investigation... [t]he decision after investigation should be communicated to the parties in writing, in a discreet and confidential manner, indicating the conclusion reached, whether the misconduct alleged has been substantiated, and the agency's opposition to that kind of activity." Furthermore, the City's EEO Policy stated, "[t]he EEO Officer will advise all parties in writing of the outcome of a complaint."
- ➤ The complaint file submitted did not include written notice to the respondents of the conclusion and outcome of the complaint investigation. Corrective Action Required.

<u>NOTE</u>: Subsequent to the period in review, the CFB submitted EEO complaint file No. 2019-1 that was completed in June 2019. EEO complaint file No. 2019-1 included written notice to the complainant and respondent of the conclusion and outcome of the complaint investigation.

The CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure did not require that each complainant and respondent be notified in writing of the conclusion and outcome of their complaint investigation (see § I.2 for associated corrective action).

- **15.** Ensure each internal discrimination complaint file contains a written determination of its outcome and corrective action(s) taken as a result.
- ✓ The complaint file submitted contained a written determination of its outcome and corrective actions taken as a result. Additionally, the CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure stated, "[t]he Executive Director will review the report of the EEO Officer... and promptly issue a determination adopting, rejecting, or modifying the recommended action. This determination shall be in writing to the EEO Officer... [t]he agency will then take immediate and appropriate corrective action if there has been a determination that a violation of this policy has occurred." This is consistent with the requirements of the City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines and the City's EEO Policy. The City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines stated, "if, based on facts, the EEO Officer determines that... the Respondent engaged in unlawful discriminatory conduct in violation of the City's EEO Policy, the EEO Officer must determine the most appropriate action... and make a written recommendation to



the Agency Head" and "[t]he written report should include... a conclusion/determination and recommendation." Additionally, the City's EEO Policy stated, "[t]he EEO Officer will submit a confidential report of the complaint investigation to the agency head... the EEO Officer will recommend appropriate corrective action. The agency head will review the EEO Officer's report and promptly issue a determination adopting, rejecting or modifying the recommended action. Such determination shall be in writing and may be issued electronically."

- **16.** Notify the complainant and respondent in writing when the investigation by the EEO professional has been transferred because of the filing of an external complaint.
- ✓ Because the internal complaint submitted was not transferred as the result of the filing of an external complaint, the CFB's procedures were used to measure compliance with this standard. The City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines stated, "[i]f an external complaint or lawsuit is filed subsequent to the filing of the internal complaint, the matter must also be transferred to the agency's Office of General Counsel. The EEO Office must notify Complainant (and Respondent, if any) in writing of the transfer." Additionally, the City's EEO Policy stated, "[t]he EEO Officer will notify the complainant and the parties who are the subject of the complaint, in writing, that the investigation by the EEO Officer has been transferred because of the filing of the external complaint."

<u>NOTE</u>: The CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure did not include a requirement that the complainant and respondent be notified in writing when the investigation by the EEO professional has been transferred because of the filing of an external complaint (see § I.2 for associated corrective action).

- 17. Establish and utilize a complaint tracking and monitoring system that permits the agency to identify the location, status, and length of time elapsed in the complaint investigation process, the issues and the bases of the complaints, the aggrieved individuals, and other information necessary to analyze complaint activity to identify trends.
- ✓ The Campaign Finance Board established an electronic complaint tracking and monitoring system that captured the following information: Current Status; Date of Complaint Submission; Number of Days in Complaint Process; Number of Days Until 90-Day Complaint Completion Deadline; Date of Complaint Resolution; Name of Staff Complaint Submitted To; Title of Staff Complaint Submitted to; Complainant(s) Name; Complainant(s) Contact Information; Respondent(s) Name; Respondent(s) Unit; Respondent(s) Contact Information; Witness(es) Name; Witness(es) Unit; Witness(es) Contact Information; Basis of Complaint; Additional Information; and Date Report Submitted to Executive Director.
- > The Campaign Finance Board did not demonstrate that it utilized its complaint tracking and monitoring system during the period in review. Corrective Action Required.

<u>NOTE</u>: Subsequent to the period in review, in July 2019, the Campaign Finance Board submitted an updated copy of its complaint tracking log for the time period of January 2019 to June 2019, which demonstrated that EEO complaint No. 2019-1 was entered into CFB's complaint tracking and monitoring system.

The category entitled, Number of Days Until 90-Day Complaint Completion Deadline, is not consistent



with the timeframe requirements specified in the *CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure* which required complaints to be completed within 75 days; this difference should be reconciled. The EEPC recommends that the complaint tracking and monitoring system reflect the timeframe requirements of the controlling policy.

- 18. Ensure that the General Counsel assists the agency head in identifying and determining appropriate responses to sexual harassment; works with the principal EEO Professional in the implementation of the City's policies and procedures pertaining to sexual harassment; informs the principal EEO Professional when external complaints or litigation involving sexual harassment is brought against the agency; is available to consult on internal sexual harassment complaint investigations; and is responsible for the investigation of, and response to, external sexual harassment complaints.
- ✓ As noted in the General Counsel's *Key Responsibilities & Performance Expectations Form*, the General Counsel was responsible for ensuring adherence to the Campaign Finance Board's EEO and sexual harassment prevention policies and procedures; working with the Executive Team on setting agency-wide policy; advising the Executive Director on administrative proceedings; participating in EEO-related investigations as needed; ensuring compliance with EEO training requirements; and providing support to the principal EEO Professional as needed. Additionally, to fulfill the CFB's requirement under Local Law 93, the General Counsel worked with the principal EEO Professional to complete the Campaign Finance Board's *NYC Agency Risk Assessment* (see § IV.19 for assessment details).

<u>NOTE</u>: The Campaign Finance Board reported no external employment discrimination complaints were filed during the audit period. Therefore, the General Counsel's implementation of their responsibility to inform the principal EEO Professional when external complaints or litigation involving sexual harassment are brought against the CFB could not be measured for the period in review.

#### IV. SHPRA - Annual Review of Practices, Policies and Programs

Determination: The agency is in compliance with the standards for this subject area.

- **19.** Ensure that the principal EEO Professional, HR Professional, and General Counsel, review the number of sexual harassment complaints, and the agency's employment practices, policies and programs on an annual basis to identify whether there are barriers to employment opportunities that may be related to sexual harassment and determine what, if any, actions are required to correct deficiencies.
- ✓ Calendar invites and meeting agendas document that the principal EEO Professional, Director of Administrative Services and Human Resources, and EEO Counselors reviewed the Campaign Finance Board's *Citywide Equal Employment Database System* (CEEDS) data, policies, programs, and procedures on September 8, 2017 and September 5, 2018. As a result of the reviews, the Campaign Finance Board identified no specific barriers to employment opportunities or trends that may be related to sexual harassment. Additionally, the CFB reported that the aforementioned staff met quarterly to review CEEDS data and look for potential trends or barriers while preparing the CFB's quarterly reports on EEO activity, *Agency Quarterly Report*. On October 15, 2018, the principal EEO



Professional, General Counsel, and Director of Administrative Services and Human Resources conducted an assessment of workplace risk factors associated with sexual harassment to identify whether there were barriers to employment opportunities that may be related to sexual harassment and determine what, if any, actions are required to correct deficiencies. As part of the NYC Agency Risk Assessment, the Campaign Finance Board examined the following risk areas: homogeneous workforce; language differences in the workplace; power disparity in the workplace; isolated workplaces; and decentralized workplaces. The Campaign Finance Board identified no barriers to employment opportunities that may be related to sexual harassment.

<u>NOTE</u>: The Campaign Finance Board reported one internal complaint and no external complaints were filed during the period in review; therefore a review of the number of sexual harassment complaints to identify trends could not be conducted for the period in review.

#### V. SHPRA - Responsibility for Implementation - EEO Professionals

Determination: The agency is in compliance with the standards for this subject area.

- **20.** Appoint a principal EEO Professional to implement EEO policies and standards within the agency. Ensure the principal EEO Professional is trained regarding city, state, federal EEO laws; the requirements of the agency's EEO policies, standards and procedures; and the prevention, investigation, and resolution of discrimination and sexual harassment complaints.
- ✓ The principal EEO Professional was appointed in February 2017. The agency head notified all staff of the appointment via email on February 9, 2017. Certificates of completion demonstrate that the principal EEO Professional completed DCAS' Citywide Learning & Development Center's instructor-led training, 5-Day *Diversity and Equal Employment Opportunity Basic Training* (2017); the following New York City Law Department's instructor-led EEO related trainings: 2015 *Update on Employment Discrimination Laws and People with Disabilities* (2015), *Diversity & EEO Basic Training* (2017), and *Promoting Inclusion for LGBTQ Community Members: Transgender 101* (2018); and the New York City Bar Association's Sexual Harassment in the Wake of #MeToo (2018), Sexual Harassment & the Law: A Call To Action for Lawyers (2018), and Inclusive Leadership = Intelligent Leadership (2018). The aforementioned trainings covered the laws, requirements, policies, and procedures geared toward the prevention of discrimination and sexual harassment complaints. DCAS' 5-Day *Diversity and Equal Employment Opportunity Basic Training* and the New York City Law Department's *Diversity & EEO Basic Training* covered the laws and requirements for the investigation and resolution of discrimination and sexual harassment complaints.
- **21.** Ensure that the responsibilities of the principal EEO Professional are competently discharged by providing adequate resources such as opportunities for continuing education and professional development, and/or support staff to meet EEO obligations.
- ✓ During the period in review, the principal EEO Professional received support in the discharge of their responsibilities from two part-time EEO Counselors and one Disability Rights Coordinator. The principal EEO Professional had access to training opportunities provided by DCAS' Citywide Learning & Development Center, the New York City Law Department and the New York City Bar Association (see § V.20 for training details). The principal EEO Professional also received tasks and standards



specific to their EEO-related responsibilities via the Key Responsibilities & Performance Requirements Form; and an annual performance evaluation of their EEO-related responsibilities, which included feedback and recommendations. Additionally, the CFB reported that for the duration of the period in review, the principal EEO Professional stayed abreast of pertinent EEO matters through monthly attendance at DCAS' Best Practices Meetings and consultation with DCAS' Office of Citywide Equity and Inclusion (OCEI) as needed. As noted on the DCAS website, the OCEI "provides agencies with guidance and updates on policy and procedural interpretation, applicable law changes, and other EEO related issues. The City's EEO community is also provided with access to standardized procedures, templates, training, best practices, EEO/diversity and inclusion trends and other relevant resources."

- **22.** Where the agency's organizational structure necessitates multiple EEO professionals, select such individuals from different office locations and, where possible, from a variety of levels within the organizational structure. Appoint EEO professionals who are trained in EEO laws and procedures, and their responsibilities under the EEO Policy.
- ✓ During the period in review, the Campaign Finance Board's workforce included 105 employees, three of whom were EEO Professionals, at one office location. The Campaign Finance Board appointed the Director of Records Management and the Voter Assistance Manager as EEO Counselors who supported the principal EEO Professional with carrying out EEO responsibilities under the CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure and the City's EEO Policy. In June 2017, the EEO Counselors completed Diversity & Equal Employment Opportunity training for CFB EEO Counselors, created and conducted by the principal EEO Professional. The curriculum for the Diversity and Equal Employment Training for CFB EEO Counselors indicated that the training covered the city, state and federal EEO laws and unlawful discriminatory practices; laws defining and prohibiting sexual harassment; the requirements of the CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure and the City's EEO policies, standards and procedures; the prevention, investigation and resolution of discrimination complaints; and the role of an EEO Professional.
- **23.** Ensure that the principal EEO Professional works cooperatively and closely with the General Counsel in the implementation of policies and procedures concerning EEO and sexual harassment.
- ✓ As noted in the General Counsel's *Key Responsibilities & Performance Expectations Form*, the General Counsel was responsible for providing support and assistance to the principal EEO Professional as needed. Additionally, in October 2018, the principal EEO Professional and the General Counsel worked cooperatively on the completion of the Campaign Finance Board's *NYC Agency Risk Assessment* (see § IV.19 for assessment details).
- **24.** Assign the principal EEO Professional (or EEO-related designee) the responsibility to supervise the activities of EEO professionals, and ensure that: the policies against sexual harassment and complaint procedures are distributed/posted at all agency locations; employees/managers receive sexual harassment prevention training; EEO-related policies are made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print, audio recording and/or Braille) upon request; managers, supervisors and human resource professionals receive guidance on issues pertaining to sexual harassment; and allegations of sexual harassment are promptly investigated.



- ✓ During the period in review, the principal EEO Professional ensured that the Campaign Finance Board's policies and procedures were posted via the *Human Resources Hub* of the CFB's intranet (see § I.2 for further details); and that all employees received sexual harassment prevention training via EEO training conducted by the principal EEO Professional and the DCAS Sexual Harassment *Prevention* computer-based training (see § II.3 for training details). As noted in the principal EEO Professional's *Key Responsibilities & Performance Requirements Form*, the principal EEO Professional was responsible for supervising the EEO Counselors, and leading the EEO complaint investigation process. Although the Campaign Finance Board reported that there were no requests for policies in alternate formats during the period in review, the *CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure* stated, "[u]pon request to the EEO Officer, this Policy and Complaint Procedure and the City's EEO Policy will be made available in Braille, large print, audiocassette, or another format accessible to persons with disabilities". As noted in the Campaign Finance Board's Sexual Harassment Policy Statement, managers and supervisors were instructed to notify an EEO professional if they receive a complaint alleging sexual harassment or if they observe, learn about, or suspect a violation of the City or Campaign Finance Board's EEO policies has occurred (see § VI.27 for further details).
- **25.** Ensure that the principal EEO Professional reports directly to the agency head (or a direct report other than the General Counsel) in order to exercise the necessary authority and independent judgment to fulfill EEO responsibilities.
- ✓ The Campaign Finance Board's organizational chart identified the principal EEO Professional as EEO Officer and illustrated a direct reporting relationship between the principal EEO Professional and the agency head.
- **26.** Maintain documentation regarding directives or decisions between the agency head (or a direct report other than the General Counsel) and the principal EEO Professional that impact the administration and operation of programs, policies or procedures concerning sexual harassment.
- ✓ On July 20, 2017, a Campaign Finance Board EEO Counselor provided the agency head with a summary and recommendation via memorandum regarding a complaint referred to the EEO Counselor by the principal EEO Professional. On September 13, 2018, the principal EEO Professional, agency head, Chief of Staff, and Director of Administrative and Human Resources communicated via email regarding the decision to update the Campaign Finance Board's EEO Policy Statement and EEO Statement of Commitment to include a sexual harassment prevention policy statement. The updated statement entitled, EEO and Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy Statements and Statement of Commitment, was issued by the agency head on September 14, 2018.

#### VI. SHPRA - Responsibility for Implementation - Supervisors/Managers

Determination: The agency is in compliance with the standards for this subject area.

27. Ensure that managers and supervisors are held accountable for enforcing the agency's sexual harassment prevention policies and complaint procedures. Document this expectation and its implementation.



- The expectation that managers and supervisors were held accountable for enforcing the Campaign Finance Board's sexual harassment prevention policies and complaint procedures was documented in the CFB EEO Policy and Complaint Procedure which stated, "[y]ou should inform your supervisor or the EEO Officer if you believe that you need a reasonable accommodation... Unit heads, managers, and supervisors will allow you to meet with the EEO Officer or an EEO Counselor at the earliest practicable time consistent with the operational needs of their units." This expectation was also documented in the Campaign Finance Board's Sexual Harassment Policy Statement which stated, "[t]he CFB urges anyone covered by the City and CFB EEO Policies who believes they have been subjected to behavior in violation of the EEO policies, including sexual harassment or any unwelcome sexual attention, to report the conduct to a supervisor, manager, or agency EEO Officer/Counselors... Managers, supervisors and human resources personnel must promptly notify the CFB's EEO Officer or EEO Counselors in writing, either via email or a memorandum, if they receive a complaint alleging sexual harassment or if they observe, learn about, or suspect any violation of the City or CFB's EEO policies has occurred. Managers and supervisors should encourage subordinates to consult with the EEO Officer." In September 2017, all managers and supervisors affirmed their commitment to the CFB's EEO policies to all staff in their units via email with a personal endorsement of the Campaign Finance Board's Statement of Commitment to NYCCFB's EEO Policy. During EEO training conducted in January and April 2018, all staff were informed that an EEO complaint may be reported to a supervisor or manager, and managers were notified that they must contact the principal EEO Professional if they learn of any violation or potential violation of the CFB's EEO Policies. Additionally, the Campaign Finance Board utilized a managerial performance evaluation form during the period in review, which contained a section rating managers on their EEO responsibilities (see § VI.28 for managerial evaluation details).
- **28.** Ensure the managerial performance evaluation form contains a rating for EEO (which covers responsibilities and processes for assuring their ability to make employment decisions based on merit and equal consideration, or treat others in an equitable and impartial manner).
- ✓ The Campaign Finance Board's managerial performance evaluation form contained a section entitled "EEO policies" where managers were rated on their EEO responsibilities related to the CFB's policies, as outlined in their Key Responsibilities & Performance Requirements Form. The Key Responsibilities & Performance Requirements Form can differ between employees, so each manager's Key Responsibilities & Performance Requirements Form was attached to their performance evaluation. A managerial performance evaluation conducted during the period in review demonstrated that a manager was rated on their responsibility to be "supportive of the EEO policies."

#### VII. SHPRA - Reporting Standard for Agency Head

Determination: The agency is required to comply with the standards for this subject area.

- **29.** Submit to the EEPC an Annual Plan of measures and programs to provide equal employment opportunity, and quarterly reports on efforts to implement the Plan within 30 days following each quarter. Include a breakout of sexual harassment complaint activity in each quarterly report.
- ✓ The Campaign Finance Board submitted to the EEPC its *Annual Diversity and EEO Plans* for fiscal year (FY) 2017, FY 2018, and FY 2019; as well as *Agency Quarterly Reports* on efforts to implement



those plans for all quarters of the period in review (quarters 3 and 4 of FY 2017; all quarters of FY 2018; and quarters 1 and 2 of FY 2019).

NOTE: The CFB reported no sexual harassment complaints during the period in review.

**30.** Upon the EEPC's determination that the entity does not require further review or monitoring: Distribute a memorandum signed by the agency head that re-emphasizes the commitment of agency administrators to the EEO program, including the prevention of sexual harassment, and informs employees of any changes to the agency's employment practices as a result of the EEPC's audit/monitoring. This final action is required to conclude the audit and monitoring process.

<u>FINAL ACTION</u>: Upon the EEPC's determination that the entity does not require further review or monitoring: Distribute a memorandum signed by the agency head that re-emphasizes the commitment of agency administrators to the EEO program, including the prevention of sexual harassment, and informs employees of any changes to the agency's employment practices as a result of the EEPC's audit/monitoring. This final action is required to conclude the audit and monitoring process.

#### **Summary of Corrective Actions:**

The Campaign Finance Board has  $\underline{2}$  required corrective action(s) at this time. This includes the aforementioned final action.

#### Conclusion

Pursuant to Charter Chapter 36, the Campaign Finance Board has the *option* to respond to this Preliminary Determination, but must respond to our Final Determination if corrective action is required. **Any response must be signed by the agency head and submitted to the EEPC's Executive Director.** 

Optional Response to Preliminary Determination: If submitted, the Campaign Finance Board's optional response to the EEPC's Executive Director should indicate, with attached documentation, what steps have been or will be taken to correct outstanding areas of non-compliance, and must be received in our office within 14 days from the date of this letter. No extensions will be granted for the *option* to respond to the Preliminary Determination.

(Optional Conference) If requested, at the Optional Conference the EEPC will discuss the immediate steps that should be taken to correct outstanding areas of non-compliance and address questions regarding the Campaign Finance Board's implementation of the prescribed corrective action(s).

(No Response Option) If the Campaign Finance Board does not respond to this Preliminary Determination within 14 days, it will become the EEPC's Final Determination.

Mandatory Response to Final Determination: Following this Preliminary Determination, the EEPC will issue a Final Determination where we may modify or eliminate the corrective action(s) based on verified information submitted as part of the response to the Preliminary Determination; identify remaining corrective action(s) that require further monitoring to ensure implementation; and assign a mandatory



compliance-monitoring period of up to 6 months for this purpose. Pursuant to Charter Chapter 36, upon receipt, the Campaign Finance Board must submit a response, signed by the agency head, to our Final Determination within 30 days. Your response to the Final Determination will initiate the compliance-monitoring period.

In closing, we want to thank you and your staff for the cooperation extended to the Equal Employment Practices Commission's EEO Program Analysts during the course of our audit and analysis.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Menelik Allsop, EEO Program Analyst

Approved by,

Charise L. Terry
Executive Director

c: Danica You, Esq., Principal EEO Professional, Campaign Finance Board Ilacia Zuell, Manager, EEO Analysis and Audit Unit, EEPC

## Appendix - 1

## Campaign Finance Board

CEEDS Report: Workforce Composition Summary

2nd Quarter Fiscal Year 2019

(End of Audit Period)

RUN DATE: 01/07/19 RUN TIME: 08:09:33.8 NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CITYWIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
CITYWIDE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT DATABASE SYSTEM (CEEDS)
WORK FORCE COMPOSITION SUMMARY
019 AGENCY 004 CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

QUARTER 2 YEAR 2019

AGENCY CODE : 004 CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD EEO JOB GROUP : 001 ADMINISTRATORS														
TITLE TITLE CODE DESCRIPTION	WHITE		HISPN	ASIAN	AM IND ALASK	UN-	WHITE		HISPN		AM IND ALASK	UN- KNOWN	OTHER	TOTAL EMP
94465 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (CAMPAI	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
EEO JOB GROUP TOTAL:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
AGENCY CODE : 004 CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD EEO JOB GROUP : 002 MANAGERS														
TITLE TITLE CODE DESCRIPTION	WHITE				AM IND ALASK	UN-	WHITE		HISPN	ASIAN PACIS	AM IND ALASK	UN- KNOWN	OTHER	TOTAL EMP
06458 DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 06470 DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIO 06602 SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR (CAM 95005 EXECUTIVE AGENCY COUNSEL	0 1 7 0	0 0 0 0	0 0 3 0	1 0 6 0	0 0 0 0	0 0 1 0	0 0 2 2	0 0 1 0	0 0 0 0	0 0 2 0	0 0 0 0	1 0 0 0	0 0 0 0	2 1 22 2
EEO JOB GROUP TOTAL:	29.64	0.00	11.11	25.93	0.00	3.70	14.81	3.70	0.00	$\begin{array}{c} 2 \\ 7.41 \end{array}$	0.00	3.70	0.00	100.00
AGENCY CODE : 004 CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD EEO JOB GROUP : 003 MANAGEMENT SPECIALISTS														
TITLE TITLE CODE DESCRIPTION	WHITE	BLACK	HISPN	ASIAN	AM IND ALASK		WHITE	BLACK	HISPN	ASIAN PACIS	AM IND ALASK	UN- KNOWN	OTHER	TOTAL EMP
0660A ANALYST (CAMPAIGN FINANCE 06601 ANALYST (CAMPAIGN FINANCE 12627 ASSOCIATE STAFF ANALYST	8 5 0	4 1 0	2 0 0	2 0 1	0 0 0	0 0 0	7 2 0	5 0 0	6 0 0	2 5 0	0 0 0	3 1 0	0 0	39 14 1
EEO JOB GROUP TOTAL:	24.07	5 9.26	3.70	3 5.56	0.00	0.00	16.67	5 9.26	6 11.11	7 12.96	0.00	$\begin{smallmatrix}&&4\\7.41\end{smallmatrix}$	0.00	100.00
AGENCY CODE : 004 CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD EEO JOB GROUP : 008 LAWYERS														
TITLE TITLE CODE DESCRIPTION			HISPN	ASIAN	AM IND ALASK	UN-	WHITE		HISPN	ASIAN			OTHER	TOTAL EMP
06604 ATTORNEY (CAMPAIGN FINANCE	3	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
EEO JOB GROUP TOTAL:	3 37.50	12.50	0.00	12.50	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00

PAGE: 7 REPORT: EBEPR210

RUN DATE: 01/07/19 RUN TIME: 08:09:33.8 NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CITYWIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
CITYWIDE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT DATABASE SYSTEM (CEEDS)
WORK FORCE COMPOSITION SUMMARY
019 AGENCY 004 CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD PAGE: 8
REPORT: EBEPR210

QUARTER 2 YEAR 2019

AGENCY CODE : 004 CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD EEO JOB GROUP : 031 PARA PROFESSIONAL OCCUPATIONS

	MALE							FEMALE							
TITLE TITLE CODE DESCRIPTION	WHITE	BLACK	HISPN	ASIAN PACIS	AM IND ALASK		WHITE	BLACK	HISPN	ASIAN PACIS	AM IND ALASK		OTHER	TOTAL EMP	
06603 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (10209 COLLEGE AIDE	0	2	2	0	0	0	3	5 1	0	1 0	0	0	0	13	
EEO JOB GROUP TOTAL:	0.00	13.33	13.33	6.67	0.00	0.00	20.00	40.00	0.00	6.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	
AGENCY TOTAL:	24 22.85	8 7.62	7 6.67	12 11.43	0.00	0.95	19 18.10	12 11.43	6 5.71	11	0.00	5 4.76	0.00	105 100.00	

## Appendix - 2

## Campaign Finance Board

Campaign Finance Board's Sexual Harassment Policy Statement (September 14, 2018)

#### SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY STATEMENT

The City of New York is an equal opportunity employer. The City's Equal Employment Opportunity ("EEO") Policy prohibits employment discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, gender, disability, marital status, partnership status, caregiver status, sexual orientation, uniformed service or alienage or citizenship. Every City employee – paid or unpaid, permanent or temporary, managerial or non-managerial -- is protected from unlawful discrimination by the City's EEO policy and by federal, state, and local anti-discrimination laws. The City's EEO Policy and anti-discrimination laws protect all employees from discrimination by anyone they may come into contact with as part of their work, including supervisors, coworkers, and external parties, such as outside consultants. Those who seek to work for the City also are protected throughout the hiring process.

Sexual harassment is a form of employment discrimination prohibited by the City's EEO Policy and law. All Campaign Finance Board employees should be familiar with the City's and the <a href="CFB's EEO Policies">CFB's EEO Policies</a>' protections against sexual harassment. The City's EEO Policy incorporates the protections provided by federal, state, and local laws and implements them by providing for disciplinary sanctions to be imposed on those who engage in sexual harassment.

Federal guidelines define sexual harassment as "unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature . . . when: 1) submission to the conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment; 2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual; or 3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment." Under the New York City Human Rights Law, verbal or physical conduct that treats a person "less well" because of gender is unlawful.

Sexual harassment may involve individuals of the same or different genders. A broad range of conduct by supervisors, co-workers, and anyone an employee may come into contact with as part of their work may constitute sexual harassment, including, but not limited to, making remarks or gestures or displaying pictures that are sexually suggestive; engaging in verbal banter, abuse or harassment of a sexual nature; requesting -- directly or subtly -- sexual favors; and subjecting another person to unwelcome touching, patting, pinching or other contact.

Sexual harassment is strictly prohibited. Employees who violate this policy are subject to discipline, including termination. Persons who violate this policy may also be subject to civil damages or criminal penalties.

The City's policy prohibiting sexual harassment does not forbid consensual social relationships between employees. But it does prohibit gender-based conduct that is unwanted or creates an intimidating and hostile work environment.

The CFB urges anyone covered by the City's EEO Policy who believes he or she has been subjected to sexual harassment or any unwelcome sexual attention to report the conduct to a supervisor or manager or to the agency EEO Officer (Danica You), who may be contacted at <a href="mailto:dyou@nyccfb.info">dyou@nyccfb.info</a> or x 1856. The EEO Counselors may be contacted as follows: Sabrina Castillo (<a href="mailto:scastillo@nyccfb.info">scastillo@nyccfb.info</a> or x 1843) and Rudy Castro (<a href="mailto:rcastro@nyccfb.info">rcastro@nyccfb.info</a> or x 1792). It is important to report all concerns about sexual harassment or inappropriate sexual conduct to the EEO Officer or a supervisor or manager as soon as possible.

Managers, supervisors and human resources personnel <u>must</u> promptly notify the CFB's EEO Officer (Danica You) or EEO Counselors (Sabrina Castillo or Rudy Castro) in writing, either via email or a memorandum, if they receive a complaint alleging sexual harassment or if they observe, learn about, or suspect that any violation of the Policy has occurred. Managers and supervisors should encourage subordinates to consult with the EEO Officer.

Complaints of sexual harassment will be handled under the New York City Equal Employment Opportunity Policy and Procedures. See links below:

- 1. City's EEO Policy http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/html/about/eeopol.shtml.
- 2. About EEO Handbook (companion booklet to the EEO Policy) http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/html/about/eeo booklet.shtml
- 3. EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines <a href="http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/downloads/pdf/misc/eeo">http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/downloads/pdf/misc/eeo</a> discriminationcomplaintproc edures.pdf

All inquiries, complaints and investigations are treated confidentially. Information is revealed strictly on a need-to-know basis. Information contained in a formal complaint is kept as confidential as possible.

No employee may retaliate against or harass any person for filing a complaint or cooperating in the investigation of the complaint. Retaliation or harassment is unlawful and subject to disciplinary action.

Amy Loprest Executive Director, Campaign Finance Board September 2018

## Appendix - 3

## Campaign Finance Board

CFB Equal Employment Opportunity Policy and Complaint Procedure (2018)

# CFB EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY AND COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

#### I. <u>OVERVIEW</u>

The CFB is an Equal Employment Opportunity ("EEO") Employer committed to compliance with federal, state, and local laws prohibiting employment discrimination. Employment decisions will be made on the basis of merit and equality of opportunity and

Employment decisions will be made on the basis of merit and equality of opportunity and without unlawful discrimination on the basis of:

- Age
- Alienage or Citizenship Status
- Color
- Consumer Credit History
- Disability
- Employment Status
- Gender/Sex (including Gender Identity)
- Genetic Predisposition or Carrier Status
- Marital, Partnership, Familial, or

Caregiver Status

- Military Status
- National Origin or Ancestry
- Pregnancy, Childbirth, or Related Medical Condition
- Prior Record of Arrest or Conviction<sup>1</sup>
- Race
- Religion or Creed
- Sexual Orientation
- Status as a Victim of Domestic Violence,
- Stalking, or Sex Offenses
- Work Experience Program Status

(individually, "protected class" and collectively, "protected classes").

In addition, certain federal, state, and city laws protect persons who are discriminated against because they are <u>perceived</u> to be in a protected class, even where such individual is not actually a member of a protected class.

Under these laws, discrimination is also prohibited on the basis of your <u>association</u> with persons in a protected class or who are perceived to be in a protected class. Aiding, abetting, inciting, compelling or coercing any person present in a City government facility, whether or not an employee of the city, to engage in any conduct prohibited by this EEO policy, such as by creating a hostile work environment based on any protected characteristic, is likewise prohibited.

Consistent with the law, certain <u>reasonable accommodations</u> may be made for your disability/disabilities, for your pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical condition, for religious observance, or because you are a victim of domestic violence, stalking, or sex offenses.

The law also prohibits <u>retaliation</u> against you for complaining of or opposing discrimination, cooperating in the discrimination complaint procedure, or making or facilitating a request for a reasonable accommodation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pursuant to New York Correction Law Article 23-A, employment may be denied where there is a direct relationship between an applicant's criminal record and the position sought, or where employment would pose an unreasonable risk to persons or property.

Anti-discrimination protections apply to all terms and conditions of employment, including, but not limited to:

- Recruitment - Promotions

- Testing — Training Opportunities

Hiring
 Work Assignments
 Salary and Access to Benefits
 Transfers
 Discipline
 Discharge

Performance Evaluations
 Working Conditions

Federal, state, and city laws also prohibit policies that have a discriminatory impact on members of a protected class, unless they are justified by business necessity.

Finally, the law protects you from discriminatory harassment at work. Discriminatory harassment is the use of derogatory or demeaning statements to engage in intimidation, ridicule, insults, slurs, jokes, or gestures on the basis of a protected class. The CFB prohibits discriminatory harassment of its employees by any means, including by notes, materials, instant messages, social media messages or posts, or emails.

A copy of <u>the City's EEO Policy</u> can be obtained from the CFB's EEO Officer, Danica You, or EEO Counselors, Sabrina Castillo and Rudy Castro.

Upon request to the EEO Officer, this Policy and Complaint Procedure and the City's EEO Policy will be made available in Braille, large print, audiocassette, or another format accessible to persons with disabilities.

The CFB is firmly committed to a workplace free of discrimination and harassment. Consistent with this commitment, there may be occasions on which the CFB may go above and beyond the requirements of law and the City's EEO policy to prevent discrimination and harassment before such conduct rises to the level of illegality. This Equal Employment Opportunity and Complaint Procedure is supplemented by, and should be read in conjunction with, the <a href="Policy on Limited Use of CFB Office & Technology Resources">Policy on Limited Use of CFB Office & Technology Resources</a> and the <a href="Guidelines for Employee Use of Social Media">Guidelines for Employee Use of Social Media</a>.

#### II. HARASSMENT POLICY STATEMENT

Harassment that affects your job is a form of employment discrimination prohibited by law. Harassment includes derogatory or demeaning statements and/or other behavior such as intimidation, ridicule, insults, slurs, jokes, or gestures based on a person's membership (or perceived membership) in a protected class (as detailed in Section I, "Overview").

Guidelines issued by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission specifically address one form of harassment, sexual harassment, stating that unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when:

- (1) Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment;
- (2) Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual; or
- (3) Such conduct unreasonably interferes with an individual's work performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment.

Anyone can be unlawfully subjected to sexual harassment, regardless of characteristics including gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation. There is a broad range of conduct by supervisors, co-workers, and others with whom you interact at work that can, in certain circumstances, be considered sexual harassment, and this includes, but is not limited to, sexually suggestive remarks, sexually suggestive pictures, sexually suggestive gesturing, verbal harassment or abuse of a sexual nature, subtle or direct propositions for sexual favors, repeated requests for dates, and any unwelcome touching, patting, or pinching. Use of the CFB's office or technology resources to send or display sexually suggestive messages, pictures, cartoons, posters, or objects may also be considered sexual harassment and is strictly prohibited.

Guidelines pertaining to sexual harassment and harassment based on any protected characteristic are not meant to interfere with voluntary social relationships between individuals in the workplace, but they do prohibit actions and behavior that are <u>unwanted and unwelcome</u> and/or which create an intimidating and hostile work environment. Such conduct is <u>unwelcome</u> if you did not initiate it, encourage it, provoke it, or request it, and you feel that the conduct is demeaning, insulting, offensive, undesirable, hostile, intimidating, or threatening.

All CFB staff are entitled to a workplace free of harassment. You are entitled to make a complaint if the harasser is a manager, supervisor, co-worker, or anyone with whom you interact at work. You are also entitled to make a complaint even if someone other than yourself is the target of the offensive conduct.

# III. REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR QUALIFIED APPLICANTS AND EMPLOYEES WITH DISABILITIES

In addition to prohibiting discrimination based on disability, the CFB also provides reasonable accommodations for qualified persons with disabilities. A disability is (1) a physical, medical, mental, or psychological impairment; or (2) a history or record of such an impairment; or (3) being regarded as having such an impairment. If you feel that you need an accommodation for a disability, you are entitled to request a reasonable accommodation.

The CFB will provide a reasonable accommodation to qualified applicants and employees with disabilities to enable them to perform the essential functions of their jobs, or to enjoy the equal benefits and privileges of employment, unless providing such accommodation would impose an undue hardship. Whether an accommodation is reasonable will depend on the circumstances of

each request, and the agency may choose from among several effective reasonable accommodations if multiple options exist.

Corey Schaffer, Director of Administrative Services, is the CFB's Disability Rights Coordinator ("DRC"). If you believe you may need an accommodation for a disability, please review the CFB Employee Request for Reasonable Accommodation, and notify your supervisor or the DRC, orally or in writing, at (212) 409-1750 or <a href="mailto:cschaffer@nyccfb.info">cschaffer@nyccfb.info</a>. You have the right to meet privately with the DRC during office hours. However, you should obtain approval for leaving your work assignment if necessary. You do not need to disclose to your supervisor or manager the details or purpose of the meeting, and unit heads, managers, and supervisors cannot deny reasonable leave requests to meet with the DRC. Unit heads, managers, and supervisors will allow you to meet with the DRC at the earliest practicable time consistent with the operational needs of their units. Please note that the agency cannot guarantee the privacy of e-mail messages sent or received on an employee's work account. If you are especially concerned about the privacy of your communication, do not contact the DRC by e-mail.

A job applicant who believes that he or she needs an accommodation for a disability should also notify the DRC.

The reasonable accommodation process is flexible and interactive. It generally involves a request by a qualified person for an accommodation, an analysis of the job to determine its purpose and essential functions, and an interactive consultation process between the agency and the qualified person to assess job-related limitations and appropriate reasonable accommodations. You may be asked to complete a form and to provide medical or other documentation to support your request.

In some instances, a reasonable accommodation may be accomplished without proceeding in a step-by-step manner or may not entail a formal analysis of the job's essential functions and the employee's job-related limitations.

All documentation and information concerning the medical condition or history of an employee requesting an accommodation will be treated as confidential, except where disclosures must be made to (1) unit heads, managers, and/or supervisors (to implement work restrictions or accommodations); (2) first-aid and safety personnel; (3) government officials investigating compliance; and (4) insurance carriers.

#### IV. OTHER REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION REQUESTS

You should inform your supervisor or the EEO Officer if you believe that you need a reasonable accommodation for pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical condition, religious observance, or as a victim of domestic violence, stalking, or sex offenses. You may be required to provide certification to support your request.

Please refer to the Time and Leave Manual for information about the types of leave available to eligible CFB employees, including information about the Family and Medical Leave Act.

#### V. PROCEDURE FOR COMPLAINTS OF DISCRIMINATION

The purpose of the procedure for handling complaints of discrimination is to handle all complaints promptly, thoroughly, and fairly. Employees are urged to follow this procedure immediately whenever they have a complaint or are aware of a problem within the CFB possibly involving discrimination (which includes harassment on the basis of a protected class), retaliation, or the failure to make a reasonable accommodation as set forth above.

#### A. When to Complain about Discrimination

You should make a verbal or written complaint as promptly as possible if you believe you have been subjected to any action, decision, or harassment in violation of this policy, or if you witness others being subjected to such conduct. For example:

- You should make a complaint if you believe that you are being discriminated against or harassed by a unit head, manager, supervisor, another employee, or anyone with whom you interact at work based on your actual or perceived membership in a protected class.
- You should make a complaint if you believe that a unit head, manager, supervisor, another employee, or anyone with whom you interact at work is retaliating against you because you: opposed discrimination, participated in the discrimination complaint procedure, or requested or facilitated a reasonable accommodation.

#### B. Where to Complain

You may complain to the following individuals, or to any of the agencies listed below under Section G.

#### The EEO Officer

Danica You is the CFB's EEO Officer, and she is responsible for handling all EEO-related complaints, maintaining records of all EEO matters, and answering questions about this policy. Ms. You may be contacted at (212) 409-1856, or by e-mail at dyou@nyccfb.info.

#### The EEO Counselors

Sabrina Castillo and Rudy Castro are the CFB's EEO Counselors. Each serves as a liaison to the EEO Officer and is available to answer questions about this policy. Ms. Castillo may be contacted at (212) 409-1843, or by e-mail at scastillo@nyccfb.info. Mr. Castro may be contacted at (212) 409-1792, or by email at rcastro@nyccfb.info.

You are not required to meet with an EEO Officer or Counselor who works in your unit.

#### C. How to Complain

Please **promptly** contact the agency EEO Officer, or one of the EEO Counselors for consultation and/or to make a verbal or written complaint. If you opt to file a complaint in writing, the EEO Officer or an EEO Counselor will provide you with a <u>Complaint of Discrimination</u> form upon request. You may also obtain a <u>Complaint of Discrimination</u> form on the agency Intranet. In addition, if you are a unit head, you **must** contact the EEO Officer if you learn of any violation or potential violation of this policy.

After you initially contact the EEO Officer or an EEO Counselor, they will assist you to determine whether the issue you have raised is appropriate for resolution through the complaint process. If the issue is suitable for the complaint procedure, the EEO Officer or an EEO Counselor will guide you through the process. Your verbal or written complaint should provide the facts, including the pertinent dates and the alleged act(s) giving rise to the complaint.

You have the right to meet privately with the EEO Officer or an EEO Counselor during office hours. However, you should obtain approval for leaving your work assignment if necessary. You do not need to disclose to your supervisor or manager the details or purpose of the meeting, and unit heads, managers, and supervisors cannot deny reasonable leave requests to meet with the EEO Officer or an EEO Counselor. Unit heads, managers, and supervisors will allow you to meet with the EEO Officer or an EEO Counselor at the earliest practicable time consistent with the operational needs of their units. The EEO Officer or an EEO Counselor may arrange to meet with you at outside premises if necessary. You may also arrange to have the meeting before or after office hours, or during your lunch period. You may bring a representative of your choice to the meeting. If necessary, the EEO Officer or an EEO Counselor will make arrangements for sign language interpreters and other forms of effective communication with persons with disabilities.

You have the right to make anonymous complaints by telephoning or writing the EEO Officer or one of the EEO Counselors. Anonymity, however, cannot be guaranteed if the EEO Officer or an EEO Counselor deems it necessary to take follow-up action.

Please note that the agency cannot guarantee the privacy of e-mail messages sent or received on an employee's work account. <u>If you are especially concerned about the privacy of your complaint or request, do not contact the EEO Officer or an EEO Counselor by e-mail</u>. Please contact the relevant individual orally or through a different written means.

#### D. What Happens When a Complaint is Made

All EEO complaints will be handled under the direction of the EEO Officer and will be treated confidentially to the extent possible.<sup>2</sup> The complaint procedure typically proceeds as follows.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> All complaints, investigations, requests for accommodations, and records pertaining to these matters will be handled, to the extent possible, in a manner that will protect the privacy interests of those involved. This means that information obtained from the complainant will not be discussed with other personnel except as necessary to investigate and resolve the complaint. There may be occasions where EEO matters must be discussed with other

- Counseling: The EEO Officer or an EEO Counselor will interview the complainant to find out the details of the complaint and will discuss with the complainant the options for handling the complaint. These may include: (1) further actions the complainant could take on his or her own behalf; (2) mediation and conciliation by the EEO Officer; (3) investigation by the EEO Officer; and/or (4) the filing of a formal complaint by the complainant with an outside agency. If it appears that the complaint does not involve an EEO problem, the EEO Officer or EEO Counselor may refer the complainant to other personnel for assistance.
- Mediation & Conciliation: In appropriate cases, the EEO Officer or person acting under the direction of the EEO Officer (the "designee") will attempt to mediate the complaint with the goal of resolving the matter through a voluntary agreement between the parties. The mediation and conciliation process is designed to conclude within 45 working days from the time the complaint is filed.
- Investigation: An investigation of a complaint may be conducted by the EEO Officer and/or designee. At the beginning of the investigation, the complainant and individual(s) accused of discrimination (the "respondent(s)") will be notified that an investigation is being conducted. The respondent will be notified of the allegations forming the basis of the complaint and will be given an opportunity to respond to the allegations. The investigation begins after the EEO Officer or designee reviews the complaint and determines that an investigation is appropriate. The EEO Officer may facilitate further discussions with other agency personnel. The investigation may be conducted in conjunction with a CFB attorney from the Legal Unit, and in exceptional circumstances, in conjunction with an outside individual or entity as deemed appropriate. You should understand that the cooperation of witnesses may be needed if any disciplinary action is to be taken to rectify a problem of discrimination. If you are interviewed during the course of an EEO investigation, you have the right to be accompanied by a representative of your choice. Failure to cooperate in an investigation may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

At the conclusion of this process, the EEO Officer and/or her designee will make a confidential written report of the investigation findings to Amy M. Loprest, the Executive Director of the CFB, and will recommend appropriate corrective action. The written report will be provided to the Executive Director within 30 days after the commencement of the investigation, except if the EEO Officer and/or designee determines that there are circumstances warranting an extension of the time period to issue the written report to the Executive Director.

The Executive Director will review the report of the EEO Officer and/or her designee and promptly issue a determination adopting, rejecting, or modifying the recommended action. This determination shall be in writing to the EEO Officer and/or her designee. The agency will then take immediate and appropriate corrective action if there has been a determination that a violation of this policy has occurred. Corrective action against the respondent or others found to

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persons who may have information about a complaint or who are necessary to implement reasonable accommodations.

have violated this policy may include additional training and/or disciplinary measures such as formal reprimand, transfer, demotion, suspension without pay, or termination. Disciplinary measures shall be taken in accordance with any applicable provisions of law and/or collective bargaining agreements.

#### E. Retaliation is Prohibited

It is unlawful to retaliate against any person for filing a charge of discrimination, participating in a discrimination proceeding (including an investigation), or otherwise opposing discrimination. An employee who makes a complaint of discrimination, participates in an EEO investigation, otherwise opposes discrimination, or is a qualified individual requesting a reasonable accommodation, will be protected against retaliation and harassment.

Any employee who engages in retaliatory conduct will be subject to additional training and discipline up to and including termination.

#### F. False Complaints are Prohibited

If an employee knowingly makes a false accusation of discrimination or knowingly provides false information in the course of an investigation of a complaint, such conduct may be grounds for discipline up to and including termination. However, a complaint made in good faith, even if found to be unsubstantiated, will not be considered a false accusation.

#### G. Other Places Where a Complaint of Discrimination May Be Made

If you believe that you have experienced discrimination, you have a right to file a formal complaint with the federal, state, or local agencies listed below. You do not give up this right when you file a complaint with the CFB EEO Officer. The following federal, state, and local agencies enforce laws against discrimination.

#### **New York City Commission on Human Rights**

22 Reade Street – First Floor New York, NY 10038 (212) 306-7450

#### **New York State Division of Human Rights**

1 Fordham Plaza, 4th Floor Bronx, NY 10458 (718) 741-8400 (Headquarters; also addresses all housing cases)

55 Hanson Place, Room 1084 Brooklyn, NY (718) 722-2385; (Serves Manhattan below 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, Brooklyn and Staten Island) Adam Clayton Powell State Office Building 163 West 125th Street, 4th Floor New York, NY 10027 (212) 961-8650 (Serves Manhattan above 42<sup>nd</sup> Street and the Bronx)

Office of Sexual Harassment Issues 55 Hanson Place, Room 900 Brooklyn, NY 11217 (718) 722-2060 (All sexual harassment cases; also serves Queens)

The NYS Division of Human Rights complaint form is available online at: <a href="http://www.dhr.ny.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/complaint-form-fill-in.pdf">http://www.dhr.ny.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/complaint-form-fill-in.pdf</a>

#### **United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission**

New York District Office 33 Whitehall Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10004 (800) 669-4000 or (800) 669-6820 (TTY)

#### **United States Department of Justice (for disability complaints only)**

950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Civil Rights Division Disability Rights Section - 1425 NYAV Washington, DC 20530 (800) 514-0301 or (800) 514-0383 (TTY)

For information on how long you have to file a complaint with one of the above agencies, please refer to the summary chart of EEO-related laws that you received at your EEO training. You may also obtain a copy of this chart from the EEO Officer. The contents of this chart are prepared by the Department of Citywide Administrative Services. You should check with the above agencies as to whether the information on your chart is current.

#### H. Career Counseling

The CFB is committed to promoting equal employment opportunity, diversity, and inclusion by continually implementing new strategies and programs that prevent, diminish, or eliminate barriers to equal opportunity employment. The Director of Administrative Services will provide career counseling as requested to ensure CFB employees are knowledgeable about the civil service process, are aware of opportunities for promotion and transfer within the agency, and are supported in professional development and skills growth. As part of this role, the Director of Administrative Services can provide information about civil service exams and resources and support for effective interview techniques and trainings for professional development.

## Appendix - 4

## Campaign Finance Board

Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, Standards and Procedures to Be Utilized by City Agencies 2014

# EQUAL EMPLOYMENT **PPORTUNITY** POLICY STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES TO BE UTILIZED BY CITY AGENCIES CITY OF NEW YORK 2014

# EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY

STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES
TO BE UTILIZED BY CITY AGENCIES

#### **CITY OF NEW YORK**

BILL DE BLASIO Mayor

LISETTE CAMILO
Commissioner
Department of Citywide Administrative Services

2014

#### NEW YORK CITY EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY

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#### NEW YORK CITY EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY (2014)

#### **Introduction**

The New York City Charter provides that each agency head must ensure that his or her agency does not discriminate against employees or applicants for employment in any manner prohibited by federal, state, and local law.<sup>1</sup> In addition, the Charter requires agency heads to establish measures, programs, and annual EEO Plans that communicate each agency's efforts to provide equal employment opportunity ("EEO") to City employees and applicants for employment within City government.<sup>2</sup> The Department of Citywide Administrative Services ("DCAS") is required to establish uniform procedures and standards to assist City agencies in establishing annual EEO Plans, and other measures and programs to ensure equal employment opportunity.<sup>3</sup> DCAS developed this Policy,<sup>4</sup> and the standards and procedures contained herein, to implement DCAS' and the City's obligations under the City Charter; federal, state, and local laws; and the City's diversity and inclusion strategy.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Policy (2014), hereafter known as "Policy," supersedes the previous Equal Employment Opportunity Policy (2005) of the City of New York. Detailed uniform complaint and reasonable accommodation procedures are published separately. This Policy, any addenda to this Policy, and the EEO Policy Handbook are to be distributed to each agency head, EEO Officer,<sup>5</sup> General Counsel, Agency Personnel Officer (APO), manager, and supervisor.

In addition to the Policy, DCAS updated the EEO Policy Handbook, "About EEO: What You May Not Know." <sup>6</sup> The EEO Policy Handbook was created to provide City government employees with a user-friendly summary of the relevant laws and the Policy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Charter Section 815(h).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Charter Section 815(a)(19).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Charter Section 814(a)(12).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This Policy was drafted in consultation with the Equal Employment Practices Commission, the New York City Law Department and EEO Officers from various City agencies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Each agency head appoints an EEO Officer to assist with the implementation of the Policy, standards, and procedures. The agency EEO Officer and other personnel, including EEO counselors, investigators, liaisons, etc., are referred to in this Policy as 'EEO office or EEO representatives.'

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The Policy may be downloaded at <a href="http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/html/about/eeopol">http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/html/about/eeopol</a>. The EEO Policy Handbook, "About EEO: What You May Not Know," may be downloaded at <a href="http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/html/about/eeo-booklet.shtml">http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/html/about/eeo-booklet.shtml</a>.

#### I. Equal Employment Opportunity Policy

The City of New York is an equal opportunity employer and prohibits discriminatory employment actions against, and treatment of, City employees and applicants for employment based on actual or perceived race, color, national origin, alienage or citizenship status, religion or creed, gender (including "gender identity" -- which refers to a person's actual or perceived sex, and includes self-image, appearance, behavior or expression, whether or not different from that traditionally associated with the legal sex assigned to the person at birth), disability, age (18 and over), military status, prior record of arrest or conviction, marital status, partnership status, genetic information or predisposing genetic characteristic, sexual orientation, status as a victim or witness of domestic violence, sex offenses or stalking, and unemployment status.

#### A. <u>Types of Prohibited Conduct</u><sup>12</sup>

Decisions and practices based on an individual's protected status (e.g., race, religion, age, and the other categories listed above) that unlawfully affect employment or the compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of an individual's employment or potential employment with the City of New York are prohibited by this Policy. This includes unlawful decisions, actions, and practices that occur in the course of recruitment, testing, hiring, work assignments, salary and benefits, working conditions, performance evaluations, promotions, training opportunities, career development and advancement, transfers, discipline, discharge, or any other application or selection process relating to employment.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Some employment actions motivated by the reasons listed are permitted by law, such as where an employer may deny employment on the basis of an applicant's prior record of conviction, if there is a direct relationship between one or more of the applicant's criminal offenses and the specific employment sought, or where employing the applicant poses an unreasonable risk to property or to the safety or welfare of specific individuals or the general public. (*See* Correction Law, Art. 23-A, Section 752.)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> "Partnership status" was added as a protected class under New York City's Human Rights Law on October 3, 2005.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The term "predisposing genetic characteristic" was adopted on August 30, 2005 to streamline the terms "genetic predisposition" and "carrier status" in the previous version of the New York State Human Rights Law.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> "Status as victim of sex offenses or stalking" was added as a protected class under the City Human Rights Law on December 22, 2003.

<sup>11 &</sup>quot;Unemployment status" was added as a protected class under New York City's Human Rights Law on June 11, 2013.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See also, EEO Policy Handbook, "About EEO: What you May Not Know," for more examples of prohibited conduct.

The Policy also prohibits sexual harassment (i.e., conduct or language of a sexual nature) and harassment based on gender or any other protected characteristic (such as race, religion, disability, or sexual orientation). Forms of harassment may include, but are not limited to, the use of vulgar language, abusive acts or language, hostility, physical aggression, intimidation, or unequal treatment.

The Policy prohibits conduct which unreasonably interferes with an employee's job performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment, or creates an abusive working environment based on any protected characteristic.

Harassment and/or retaliation against a person who opposes or complains about prohibited conduct or participates in any way in the complaint, investigation, or reasonable accommodation processes are strictly prohibited.

The Policy also prohibits the denial of reasonable accommodations for disabilities; pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions; religious beliefs, observances, and practices; or for victims of domestic violence, sex offenses, or stalking that do not create an undue hardship.

Some offensive acts or remarks may violate this Policy even if they are not so severe that they violate federal, state, or local discrimination laws. The City and its agencies may discipline conduct that violates this Policy even if the conduct does not violate a law prohibiting discrimination.

The Policy also prohibits any City employee from aiding, abetting, inciting, compelling, or coercing any person present in a City facility, whether or not that person is an employee of the City, from engaging in any conduct prohibited by this Policy, including, but not limited to, conduct that creates a hostile work environment based on any protected characteristic.

#### B. Applicability

Everyone who works within New York City government or its workplaces, or who seeks employment within City government, is covered by federal, state, and local employment laws, and this Policy. This includes all current employees, managers (including executives and senior level staff members), supervisors, co-workers, paid and unpaid interns, <sup>13</sup> and job applicants.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> The prohibition of discrimination against interns was added in the New York City's Human Rights Law on April 15, 2014.

This Policy not only protects individuals from prohibited conduct because of their own protected status (such as their own actual or perceived race, religion, national origin, or disability), but also protects individuals from conduct motivated by the actual or perceived race, religion, national origin, or disability, etc., of other persons with whom they are associated. For example, this Policy applies to individuals who are subjected to adverse actions because of their marriage to, or domestic partnership or association with, persons of a particular racial, religious, or national origin group, or persons who have a disability. Moreover, discrimination based on an individual's name(s) or spouse's or domestic partner's name(s) that is associated with a particular racial, religious, or national origin group is prohibited.

These protections apply to actions, whether or not intentionally offensive or directed at a particular person or group, which violate this Policy.

This Policy extends to conduct which occurs at any location that could be reasonably regarded as an extension of the workplace, such as any field location, off-site business-related social function, City vehicle, or facility where City government business is being conducted and discussed.

In addition, Work Experience Program ("WEP") participants have a right to a workplace that is free of discrimination, including harassment based on race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability, or age, and any basis that could otherwise be determined to be prohibited behavior pursuant to the Policy as applied to employees or applicants for employment.

All City employees, interns, and WEP participants are expected to be respectful of everyone in the City's workplaces and members of the public, and to be sensitive to the effects of their behavior on those around them. All employees, interns, and WEP participants must be trained in the requirements of this Policy and must receive a copy of the EEO Policy Handbook, "About EEO: What You May Not Know."

#### II. Specific Protections

The following sections are provided to enable individuals to understand the unique definitions, issues, rights, and responsibilities under this Policy pertaining to sexual harassment and discrimination based on disability, religion, retaliation, and status as a victim of domestic violence, sex offenses, or stalking.

#### A. <u>Sexual Harassment</u>

Sexual harassment is a form of employment discrimination which is prohibited by law. The federal government created guidelines which define sexual harassment as "unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature . . . when: 1) submission to the conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment; 2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual; or 3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment."<sup>14</sup>

Sexual harassment may involve individuals of the same or different gender(s). A broad range of behavior may be considered sexual harassment, including sexually suggestive remarks, pictures or gestures, verbal abuse or harassment of a sexual nature, subtle or direct propositions for sexual favors, and any unnecessary touching, patting, or pinching.

#### B. <u>Disabilities</u>

Discrimination against a person based on that person's actual or perceived disability, record of disability, or relationship with a person with a disability will not be tolerated by the City of New York. For the purpose of this Policy, a disability is: 1) a physical, medical, mental, or psychological impairment; 2) a history or record of such impairment; or 3) being regarded as having such impairment.

The City of New York and its agencies will take appropriate action to provide reasonable accommodations to qualified employees and job applicants with disabilities, unless providing such accommodations creates an undue hardship. Reasonable accommodations include the provision of equipment, changes in workplace policies and practices, and other forms of assistance that allow people with disabilities to apply for a position, perform their jobs, or enjoy equal benefits and privileges of employment as are enjoyed by other similarly situated employees without disabilities.

Whether an accommodation is reasonable will depend upon the circumstances of the particular request. Some examples of accommodations that may be reasonable include: making facilities physically accessible to, and usable by, persons with disabilities; job restructuring; modifying work schedules; providing or modifying equipment or devices; providing qualified readers, interpreters, auxiliary aids, and/or other support services; and providing leave and/or arranging for transfer or reassignment to a vacant position, if such transfer or reassignment does not violate

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Code of Federal Regulations, Title 29, Section 1604.11.

the Civil Service Law, Personnel Rules and Regulations, other applicable laws, or regulations and/or collective bargaining agreements.

Undue hardship may exist when an accommodation is significantly difficult, unduly costly, extensive, substantial, disruptive, or would change the nature or operation of an agency's business.

The City of New York encourages employment of and promotional opportunities for qualified persons with disabilities. For example, pursuant to Section 55-a of the New York State Civil Service Law, where agency needs and availability permit, the City encourages agencies to utilize the 55-a Program, which will allow City agencies to employ qualified persons who have been certified as disabled in competitive positions on a non-competitive basis. Individuals who wish to apply for the 55-a Program are encouraged to seek assistance from the Agency Personnel Officer or 55-a Coordinator.

#### C. Religion

The Policy prohibits adverse employment actions based on a person's religion. This includes discriminatory practices and decisions, harassment, hostility, or other adverse actions because of a person's actual or perceived creed, religious affiliation, religious beliefs, observances, or practices.

In addition, depending on the circumstances, agencies must try to reasonably accommodate the religious observances, beliefs, or practices of an employee or job applicant, unless the accommodation creates an undue hardship. A reasonable accommodation for religion may be a change in a workplace rule or practice that allows an individual to respect his or her religious observances, beliefs, or practices. City agencies may be required to provide accommodations for religion such as flexible arrival and departure times, and/or leave; voluntary exchanges of shifts or assignments; time and/or place to pray; accommodations relating to appearance and dress; and modifying workplace practices, policies, and/or procedures.

City agencies are not required to provide accommodations that are too costly or difficult to provide, that would be disruptive, or would interfere with job performance.

#### D. Retaliation

It is a violation of the Policy to retaliate against or harass any person who asserts his or her rights regarding employment discrimination by: 1) opposing discriminatory practices in the workplace; 2) complaining about prohibited conduct;

or 3) participating in any way in the complaint, investigation, or reasonable accommodation processes. It is also a violation of this Policy to retaliate against or harass someone because of his or her association with such an individual.

Behaviors which may be considered retaliatory include, but are not limited to: threats, reprimands, negative evaluations, harassment, refusal to hire, denial of promotion or job benefits, demotion, suspension, discharge, negative references to prospective employers, or other actions affecting the terms, conditions, or privileges of employment.

Examples of behavior that are protected against retaliation under this Policy include, but are not limited to: expressing an intent to file a charge or complaint alleging prohibited conduct; participating as a witness in an EEO investigation, administrative proceeding, hearing, or trial; and/or seeking a reasonable accommodation.

#### E. <u>Domestic Violence, Sex Offenses, or Stalking</u>

The New York City Human Rights Law prohibits employment discrimination against persons who are victims of domestic violence, or victims of sex offenses or stalking, as defined by that law and the New York State Penal Law. Agencies shall provide reasonable accommodations that do not create undue hardship and that enable such persons to satisfy the essential requisites of a job, provided that the status as a victim of domestic violence or victim of sex offenses or stalking is known, or should have been known, by the agency.

#### III. Procedures

#### A. Reporting Violations

Anyone who believes that he or she has been subjected to any action, decision, or harassment in violation of this Policy, or who witnesses others being subjected to improper conduct, is urged to promptly report the incident(s) to his or her supervisor or manager; to agency personnel supervising the application, testing, and interviewing process; or directly to the EEO office at the agency where the violation actually occurred, or which is the employer of the individual who purportedly committed the complained of act(s). Supervisors, managers, or human resources personnel who receive EEO complaints, or otherwise become aware of any improper discrimination, must notify the agency EEO Officer. Supervisors and managers should also encourage individuals who believe that the Policy has been violated to consult with the EEO office.

An individual who believes that this Policy has been violated may report the incident orally or in writing. Where the report is taken orally, the manager, supervisor, or EEO representative shall document the report. The EEO office will assist any individual in determining whether the conduct or decision reported is appropriate for the complaint process. Where an individual chooses to file an internal complaint with the agency EEO office, that complaint must be filed within one year of the event which is the subject of the complaint.

Persons who wish to discuss a possible violation of this Policy without revealing their identity may do so by telephoning or writing the EEO office. In such cases, the EEO office will provide counseling and take such follow-up action as may be appropriate and possible, given the restraints of anonymity.

If any employee knowingly makes a false accusation of discrimination or knowingly provides false information in the course of an investigation of a complaint, such conduct may be grounds for discipline. A complaint made in good faith, even if found to be unsubstantiated, will not be considered a false accusation.

#### B. <u>Contact with the EEO Office</u>

An employee has a right to meet privately with an EEO representative. Such a meeting may take place either during or outside of office hours. If an employee makes a request to meet with an EEO representative during office hours, the employee should obtain approval from a manager or supervisor in order to leave his or her work assignment. An employee need not disclose the purpose for or details of the meeting with an EEO representative. Reasonable leave requests to meet with an EEO representative during work hours cannot be denied by managers or supervisors. Managers and supervisors shall allow employees to meet with EEO representatives at the earliest practicable time consistent with the operational needs of their units. Where an agency has more than one EEO representative, an employee is not required to meet with an EEO representative who works in the employee's division.

At the employee's request, arrangements may also be made to hold the meeting before or after office hours, or during the employee's lunch period. Should such a meeting take place entirely on the employee's own time, he or she need not advise a manager or supervisor of the meeting, or obtain the consent or approval of a manager or supervisor. The EEO representative will arrange to meet with an employee at outside premises where appropriate and/or necessary in order to ensure confidentiality. If necessary, EEO representatives will make arrangements for sign language interpreters and other forms of effective communication with persons with disabilities.

The EEO representative will discuss and research appropriate options, including actions an individual could take on his or her own behalf, referrals to other offices and/or agencies, mediation, investigation, and/or interim relief. The EEO representative may also facilitate any further discussions with other agency personnel.

In appropriate cases, an EEO investigation may be conducted in conjunction with or by an agency's General Counsel's office, Inspector General, or disciplinary officer. In addition, there may be exceptional circumstances under which an investigation may be conducted by another individual or entity, as deemed appropriate by the Law Department or DCAS.

Any person who is interviewed during the course of an EEO investigation has a right to be accompanied by a representative of his or her choice. This includes individuals who make complaints, persons against whom complaints were made, or witnesses. It is preferable that the EEO office receive advance notice that the person who is being interviewed will be bringing a representative.

Any person who is the subject of the complaint will have an opportunity to respond in writing.

All employees are expected to cooperate with EEO investigations. Failure to cooperate in an investigation may result in disciplinary action.

#### C. <u>Withdrawing Complaints</u>

A complaint of discrimination may be withdrawn at any time by the person who filed the complaint. Withdrawal of a complaint must be made or confirmed in writing. In some instances, the agency EEO Officer will find it appropriate to end the investigation when the complaint is withdrawn. Prior to ending the investigation, the EEO Officer must determine whether the agency should take corrective action to address inappropriate conduct. If the EEO Officer determines that corrective action is required, it may be necessary for the EEO Officer to continue the investigation or recommend action to remedy inappropriate behavior.

#### D. Mediation

Mediation is a voluntary, informal, and confidential process that provides an opportunity for everyone involved in a complaint to come to a mutual agreement about how the complaint should be resolved. It is an alternative that may quickly resolve complaints without a full investigation.

All requests for mediation should be made to the EEO Officer. Mediation may be requested by any party involved and may be declined by any party.

The EEO Officer will determine whether the complaint is appropriate for mediation. The EEO Officer may choose to conduct the mediation internally within the agency, or externally through entities that provide mediation services.

Mediation may be terminated by any party to the mediation. If this occurs, the EEO Officer will inform the other party or parties in writing that the mediation has been terminated. In the event that mediation does not result in a resolution, the EEO Officer will provide the parties with a written statement informing the parties of the complainant's right to an investigation of the allegation. Where efforts to mediate complaints are unsuccessful, complaints will be investigated by the EEO office.

#### E. <u>Concluding the Complaint Investigation</u>

The EEO Officer will submit a confidential report of the complaint investigation to the agency head at the conclusion of the investigation. If the EEO Officer concludes that a violation of this Policy has occurred, the EEO Officer will recommend appropriate corrective action. The agency head will review the EEO Officer's report and promptly issue a determination adopting, rejecting or modifying the recommended action. Such determination shall be in writing and may be issued electronically. The EEO Officer will advise all parties in writing of the outcome of a complaint.

Any person found to have engaged in conduct or practices in violation of this Policy may be subject to discipline which may include a reprimand, suspension, probation, demotion, transfer, termination, or any other measures permitted by law and/or collective bargaining agreements. In addition to implementing such disciplinary action, agencies may take such steps as may be necessary to address the impact that any violation of this Policy has had on the complainant or within the agency.

#### F. Other Places Where Complaints May Be Filed

The following federal, state, and local agencies enforce laws against discrimination:

- New York City Commission on Human Rights: http://www.nyc.gov/html/cchr/html/home/home.shtml
- New York State Division of Human Rights: <a href="http://www.dhr.ny.gov/">http://www.dhr.ny.gov/</a>

- United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (the "EEOC"): <a href="http://www.eeoc.gov">http://www.eeoc.gov</a>
- United States Department of Justice: <a href="http://www.justice.gov/">http://www.justice.gov/</a>

Information about how to contact these agencies can be found in the EEO Policy Handbook, "About EEO: What You May Not Know," at <a href="http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/html/about/eeo booklet.shtml">http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/html/about/eeo booklet.shtml</a>, the DCAS website at <a href="http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/html/about/eeo.shtml">http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/html/about/eeo.shtml</a>, or the Office of Citywide Diversity and EEO at 1 Centre Street, 17th Floor North, New York, NY 10007, (212) 386-0257. Please note that there are statutory deadlines for filing complaints with each of these agencies. 15

When a person exercises his or her right to file a complaint with a federal, state, or local administrative agency (known as an "external complaint") based on or related to the same facts and circumstances of an internal complaint, the agency EEO Officer will transfer the matter to the agency General Counsel, who will be responsible for any further handling of the matter. The EEO Officer will notify the complainant and the parties who are the subject of the complaint, in writing, that the investigation by the EEO Officer has been transferred because of the filing of the external complaint. The agency General Counsel will be responsible for handling external complaints regardless of the timing of such complaints (whether filed before the internal complaint is filed, at the same time that the internal claim was filed, or after the internal complaint was filed). After transfer of the complaint to the agency General Counsel, the EEO Officer will cooperate with the General Counsel with respect to the ultimate resolution of the complaint.

#### G. Requests for Reasonable Accommodations

City agencies may be required to provide reasonable accommodations when requests are made in connection with disabilities; pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions; religious beliefs, observances, and practices; or for victims of domestic violence, sex offenses, or stalking. The reasonable accommodation process should be flexible and interactive, involving agency representatives who are necessary to the reasonable accommodation process and the individual who is requesting a reasonable accommodation. In all instances, the agency EEO office should be notified of the request in order to facilitate discussions, research appropriate accommodations, and assist in the resolution of the matter.

a private attorney for further guidance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> The deadline in some instances is as short as 180 days. Therefore, to preserve their rights, individuals who believe that they have been discriminated against and wish to file a complaint with an external agency should promptly contact the City Commission on Human Rights, the State Division of Human Rights, the EEOC, the Department of Justice, or

EEO representatives, agency personnel supervising any phase of the application process, and/or managers and supervisors involved in the process shall notify individuals who request reasonable accommodations whether the request has been granted. Where the specific accommodation requested is impracticable, agency representatives will seek to implement an appropriate alternative reasonable accommodation. The following procedures detail the specific aspects of each type of request.

1) Disabilities: An employee or job applicant with a disability who requests reasonable accommodations to enable him or her to satisfy the essential functions of the job or enjoy the rights in question may make such requests to his or her manager or supervisor, agency personnel supervising the application process, or directly to the agency EEO Officer or Disabilities Rights Coordinator. A request for a reasonable accommodation may be made orally or in writing. Where the request is made orally, it shall be documented by that person who receives the request.

EEO Officers and/or Disabilities Rights Coordinators, agency personnel supervising the application process, and managers and supervisors involved in the process shall provide reasonable assistance (such as help in completing forms) to an individual requesting an accommodation. Additionally, if a reasonable accommodation is requested to facilitate an individual's ability to apply for employment, the agency staff supervising the application procedures may be required to assist the applicant in completing the application process.

By law, all documentation and information concerning the medical condition or history of an individual requesting a reasonable accommodation for a disability must be collected and maintained on separate forms, and in separate medical files, apart from other personnel data. Such information must be treated as confidential medical records, except that managers and supervisors may be informed of necessary restrictions on work and accommodations required. Furthermore, medical information may be provided: 1) to first-aid and safety personnel, if the disability might require emergency treatment; 2) to government officials investigating the agency's compliance with applicable laws; 3) to workers' compensation offices in accordance with Workers' Compensation Law; and 4) for insurance purposes.

2) Religious Accommodations: An employee or applicant requesting reasonable accommodations for religion may make such requests to his or her manager or supervisor, agency personnel supervising the application process, or directly to the agency EEO Officer. Requests for religious accommodation should be documented by the individual receiving the request.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> A Disability Rights Coordinator is responsible for ensuring compliance with federal, state, and local laws and the Policy regarding people with disabilities.

3) Victim of Domestic Violence, Sex Offenses, or Stalking: An employee or applicant requesting reasonable accommodations for domestic violence, sex offenses or stalking may make such requests to his or her manager or supervisor, agency personnel supervising the application process, or directly to the agency EEO Officer.

Agencies may require a person requesting a reasonable accommodation to provide certification that the person is a victim of domestic violence, sex offenses, or stalking. The person requesting the reasonable accommodation shall provide a copy of such certification to the agency within a reasonable period after the request is made. A person may satisfy the certification requirement by providing documentation from an employee, agent, or volunteer of a victim services organization, an attorney, a member of the clergy, or a medical or other professional service provider from whom the individual seeking a reasonable accommodation, or that individual's family or household member, has sought assistance in addressing domestic violence, sex offenses, or stalking and the effects of the violence or stalking; a police or court record; or other information consistent with the disclosure and the request for accommodation.

4) Pregnancy:<sup>17</sup> An employee or job applicant requesting reasonable accommodations due to pregnancy and those who suffer medical conditions related to pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition may make such requests to her manager or supervisor, agency personnel supervising the application process, or directly to the agency EEO Officer or Disability Rights Coordinator. Such a reasonable accommodation may include bathroom breaks; leave for a period of disability arising from pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions; breaks to facilitate increased water intake; periodic rest for those who stand for long periods of time; and assistance with manual labor, among other things.

All information, including a statement of the person requesting a reasonable accommodation or any other documentation, record, and the fact that the individual has requested or obtained a reasonable accommodation, shall be retained in the strictest confidence by City agencies, except to the extent that disclosure is requested or consented to in writing by the person requesting the reasonable accommodation, or is otherwise required by applicable federal, state, or local law.

Where an employee or job applicant has requested a reasonable accommodation consistent with these procedures and the agency representative has not provided the reasonable accommodation, an appeal may be made to the agency head. Within 10 business days of receipt of an appeal, the agency head, or his or her designee, shall:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> The City's Human Rights Law was amended to include reasonable accommodations related to pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions effective January 30, 2014.

- l. obtain the request for reasonable accommodation made by the employee or applicant and review all related documentation, standards, procedures, and potential accommodations;
- 2. meet and/or consult with the employee or applicant, the EEO Officer, and any agency representative that the agency head deems necessary to the reasonable accommodation request;
- 3. evaluate the reasonableness of employee's or applicant's and agency representative's preferences regarding the accommodation request, giving primary consideration to the employee's or applicant's preferences; and
- 4. consult with the DCAS Office of Citywide Diversity and EEO or the Law Department.

Within 15 business days of receipt of the appeal, the agency head or his\her designee, shall issue a written determination on the request for reasonable accommodation, specifying what accommodation shall be provided, if any, and, where necessary, directing the appropriate agency representative to implement such accommodation promptly. The EEO Officer or Disability Rights Coordinator shall monitor implementation of the reasonable accommodation.

#### G. Confidentiality

All complaints, investigations, requests for accommodations, and records will be handled, to the extent possible, in a manner that will protect the privacy interests of those involved. EEO matters may be discussed with other persons who may have information about a complaint or who are necessary to implement reasonable accommodations for disability, religion, status as victims of domestic violence, sex offenses or stalking, and pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition. Therefore, it may be necessary to disclose information to persons with a legitimate need to know about the matter.

#### H. <u>Documentation</u>

All inquiries, complaints, requests, mediation efforts, investigations, requests for accommodation, and their outcomes will be documented by the EEO office.

#### J. Additional Sources of Procedural Information

The Guidelines for the Implementation of the City's Discrimination Complaint Procedures may be found online:

http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/downloads/pdf/misc/eeo\_discriminationcomplaint\_procedures.pdf

The City's Reasonable Accommodation Policy and Procedure may be found online:

http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/downloads/pdf/misc/eeo\_reasonableaccommodation.pdf

#### IV. Agency-Specific Diversity and EEO Plans

Agency heads are required by the New York City Charter to annually prepare, adopt, and implement a plan to provide equal employment opportunity. The plan must be prepared based on uniform procedures and standards provided by DCAS. DCAS will work with agency heads to help them develop realistic and achievable objectives.

Each agency head or, at his or her direction, the agency EEO Officer and/or APO, should review agency statistical information (including total employment and new hires and promotions, by race/ethnicity, and gender), EEO complaints made during the previous fiscal year and the agency's employment practices, policies, and programs. The agency head should then work with the EEO Officer, General Counsel and APO to identify: 1) whether there are any barriers to equal opportunity within the agency; 2) the agency's obligations as a result of government grants and/or contracts; and 3) what, if any, corrective actions are required under court decrees and/or governmental audits. Agencies may wish to seek the advice of the Law Department or consult with the DCAS Office of Citywide Diversity and EEO regarding the development of agency Diversity and EEO Plans.

The Diversity and EEO Plan should communicate the agency's intention to promote equal employment opportunity and diversity and inclusion by continuing effective measures or implementing new strategies and programs (i.e., preventive, corrective and risk management strategies in areas such as recruitment, training, selection, promotion, and policy dissemination standards) that prevent, diminish, or eliminate barriers to equal opportunity employment. DCAS will provide agencies with formats and recommendations for Diversity and EEO Plan development that are consistent with employment practices recommended by human resources management organizations and enforcement entities.

Although each agency's Diversity and EEO Plan will be tailored to the specific issues of that agency, there are some general measures that all agencies are required to implement. Each agency's Diversity and EEO Plan must, at a minimum, include the following:

- A commitment to ensure fair employment practices, and promote a workplace that values its employees in support of the City's diversity and inclusion strategy. The commitment will hold EEO Officers and representatives, human resources professionals, managers and supervisors accountable for ensuring that the agency does not discriminate against employees or applicants for employment and support the diversity and inclusion initiatives at the agency. This commitment should be reflected in the agency strategic plan, mission, vision, and performance metrics. It should also include the agency's strategy to ensure equal employment opportunity and to implement the best diversity and inclusion practices at the agency. The commitment should also be communicated to all employees through a Commitment Statement to affirm the principles of equal employment opportunity and diversity and inclusion.
- A commitment to assess recruitment efforts to determine whether such efforts adversely impact any particular group and what recruitment sources yield a diverse pool of qualified candidates. It should also include the agency's strategy to implement the best diversity and inclusion recruitment practices to ensure equal employment opportunity. Minimally, agencies should identify relevant professional and community organizations serving women and minorities throughout the City, review and update listings of recruitment outreach sources, and contact such organizations when positions not filled through civil service lists become available or where agencies may otherwise use discretion in hiring.
- A commitment to assess agency job postings to ensure appropriate diversity, inclusion, and equal opportunity employer messaging.
- A commitment to assess the manner in which candidates are selected for employment, to determine whether there is any adverse impact upon any particular racial, ethnic, disability, or gender group. To the extent that adverse impact is discovered, the agency head will determine whether the criteria being utilized are job-related. If the criteria are not job-related, the agency will discontinue using that method. Methods which diminish adverse impact will be preferred over those with greater impact, provided that the agency's job-related aims are not compromised by using the method with a diminished impact. Examples of selection methods which may diminish adverse impact include race/ethnicity-neutral and gender-neutral questions in interview materials and assembling interview panels that reflect gender, race and ethnic diversity. The agency will also ensure that, to the extent practicable, agency

personnel involved in both the discretionary and the civil service hiring pool process receive structured interviewing training and use structured interviewing in the selection process.

- A commitment to assess criteria for selecting persons for mid-level to high-level discretionary positions.
- A commitment to make career counseling about civil service jobs available for employees. Employees should be reminded of the identity of the agency's Career Counselor and the type of guidance which is available from the Career Counselor, at least once each fiscal year. Each agency should promptly notify agency employees and DCAS of any change in the identity of the agency Career Counselor.
- A commitment to ensure that all new employees are advised of this Policy, their rights and responsibilities under it, the discrimination complaint and investigation procedures, and the reasonable accommodation procedures.
- A commitment to establish a diversity, inclusion, and EEO training plan to
  ensure that all individuals who work within the agency, including managers and
  supervisors, are trained concerning diversity, inclusion, and EEO-related rights
  and responsibilities in a manner consistent with the minimum standards for
  diversity, inclusion and EEO training established by DCAS.
- A commitment to review on a regular basis and retain information about personnel actions, discretionary hiring, applicants, promotions, demotions, transfers, rates of pay, terms of compensation, and selection for training or apprenticeship as required by federal, state, and local law, and/or the City's official records retention schedule.
- A plan to meet obligations or remedies required or recommended as a result of government grants or contracts, court orders, consent decrees, or any audit/review conducted by a governmental agency.

Other measures which may be used to ensure fair employment practices include, for example:

- Advertising job vacancy notices in periodicals and websites with a diverse and inclusive readership.
- Sending job vacancy notices to professional and community organizations serving diverse and inclusive populations.

- Participating in career and job fairs.
- Whenever possible, promoting public service as a career choice at schools, colleges and universities.
- Using internships, work/study, co-op, and scholarship programs to attract interested persons and to develop and hire interested and qualified candidates.
- Sponsoring open houses (i.e., networking events, facilities tours).
- Working with appropriate DCAS personnel to review the competencies, skills and abilities required (as presented in job vacancy notices and notices of examination) for available positions to ensure that these standards are updated, job-related, and required by business necessity.
- Reviewing application forms and agency materials and products in order to ensure that they do not contain discriminatory language or images.
- Ensuring that human resources personnel, managers, supervisors, and other
  personnel involved in the recruitment and hiring process are trained in
  interviewing, selection, hiring skills, and EEO, to enable such individuals to
  correctly identify the most capable candidates.
- Implementing and encouraging inclusive skills and behavior standards for managers to ensure that they are able to maximize their professionalism, performance and communication skills.
- Conducting or encouraging the use of training and development programs to improve skills, performance, and career opportunities of all employees.
- Creating talent pools through employee surveys and databases, to promote cross-training, mentoring, coaching, stretch assignments, cross divisional assignments, job transfers, and rotation programs for career enhancement and development experiences.
- Planning and administering employee incentives, quality of work life and recognition programs, engagement surveys, performance evaluations, employee resource groups, and diversity councils.
- Promoting employees' awareness of opportunities for promotion and transfer within the agency, publicizing promotions and changes in the managerial ranks, and ensuring that the agency engage in succession planning for top managerial

positions. The agency considers its own employees for such opportunities by having programs that identify ready now and high potential talents.

The City of New York, through DCAS, will also:

- Provide the uniform procedures, formats, and reports required by the New York City Charter to facilitate the planning and review of the City's efforts to provide equal employment opportunity for employees and applicants for City government employment.
- Assess qualifications required for most civil service positions and ensure that civil service examinations are job-related and consistent with business necessity.
- Provide assistance to agencies to ensure that recruitment efforts fit particular human resource needs.
- Encourage agency job postings internally through City Jobs and externally through the City's website: <a href="http://www1.nyc.gov/jobs/">http://www1.nyc.gov/jobs/</a>
- Continue to conduct on-site EEO monitoring visits to agencies.
- Continue efforts to better ensure the accuracy of ethnicity and gender data.

#### V. Enforcement and Accountability Standards

#### A. <u>Department of Citywide Administrative Services</u>

DCAS is required to: 1) establish and enforce uniform procedures and standards for use by City agencies in establishing measures, programs, and plans to ensure equal employment opportunity, including a time schedule for the development, review and adoption of EEO plans; 2) establish a uniform format for use by City agencies for the presentation of statistical information on the workforce of City agencies; and 3) develop resources regarding information on employment and educational programs.<sup>18</sup> DCAS is also required to publish and submit annual reports on the activities of DCAS and the other City agencies with respect to equal employment opportunity.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> See Charter Sections 814(a)(12)-(15).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> See Charter Section 814(b)(8).

Within DCAS, the Office of Citywide Diversity and EEO assists the Commissioner to develop and enforce the Policy, standards, and procedures. The Office of Citywide Diversity and EEO will assist City agencies by developing or collaborating on solutions, strategies and initiatives to effectively implement the provisions of the City Charter and other federal, state, and local laws, and monitoring the EEO-related activities of City agencies. In addition, DCAS maintains the data that is necessary in order to fulfill the City's EEO obligations under the City Charter and other federal, state and local laws.

#### B. <u>Agency Heads</u>

Each agency head will ensure that his or her agency does not discriminate against employees or applicants for employment as prohibited by federal, state and local laws.<sup>20</sup> Agency heads are accountable to their respective Deputy Mayors for their agencies' EEO practices. Agency heads will also ensure that legal, human resources, and EEO personnel, managers, and supervisors: 1) receive a copy of this Policy (including any addenda); 2) are trained in EEO laws and procedures; and 3) know how to carry out their responsibilities under this Policy. Agency heads must distribute a copy of the EEO Policy Handbook, "About EEO: What You May Not Know" to all employees and ensure that a copy is available on the agency's website.

As discussed in Section IV, each agency head must annually adopt and implement a Diversity and EEO Plan that communicates measures and programs that the agency will undertake to ensure fair and effective efforts to provide equal employment opportunity. Draft Diversity and EEO Plans are to be developed and submitted each fiscal year according to the timetable and format established by DCAS, and must be reviewed and approved by DCAS. Agencies are required to file copies of finalized agency Diversity and EEO Plans with the Mayor, the City Council, the Equal Employment Practices Commission ("EEPC"), and the City Civil Service Commission, and to also make Diversity and EEO Plans available for reasonable public inspection.<sup>21</sup>

Each agency head will then submit quarterly reports to DCAS, as well as to the Mayor, City Council, and EEPC, on the agency's efforts during the previous quarter to implement the agency Diversity and EEO Plan. Such quarterly reports will also include a review and documentation of EEO complaints and requests for reasonable accommodations for said quarter. Quarterly Diversity and EEO reports must, pursuant to the City Charter, be timely submitted to DCAS and the other entities mentioned above, no later than thirty (30) days following the reporting period using the reporting format provided by DCAS.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> See Charter Section 815(h).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> See Charter Section 815(a)(19).

In order to meet the City's obligations under the City Charter and other federal, state and local laws, and to achieve the goals of the agency Diversity and EEO Plan, each agency head must appoint a trained EEO Officer whose responsibility it will be to implement the Policy within that agency. Because EEO Officers will need independence of judgment as well as the authority of the agency head in order to carry out their responsibilities, the EEO Officer must report directly to the agency head, or if approved by DCAS, to a direct report to the agency head. In order to avoid potential conflicts of interest, under no circumstances should the EEO Officer report to the General Counsel. Where the agency's organizational structure necessitates multiple EEO representatives, such individuals should be selected from different office locations and, where possible, from a variety of levels within the organizational structure. The agency head must ensure that the responsibilities of the EEO Officer are competently discharged.

Agency heads should appoint at least two EEO representatives, who may not be of the same gender, to receive discrimination complaints and conduct investigations. Each agency head must designate a Career Counselor with appropriate training and knowledge, who is familiar with civil service jobs, to provide career counseling to employees who request such guidance. The agency head should also designate a Disabilities Rights Coordinator, whose responsibility it will be to ensure compliance with all federal, state, and local laws, as well as City and agency policies, pertaining to persons with disabilities. Usually the EEO Officer of each agency should serve as the Disabilities Rights Coordinator; however, when circumstances warrant, an agency head may designate another person to serve as the Disabilities Rights Coordinator.

Agency heads are required to sign off on all agency Diversity and EEO Plans and final determinations concerning EEO complaint resolutions and should conduct a quarterly review of EEO complaints and requests for accommodations. Such sign off may be in written or electronic form. Each agency head will ensure that all employees are provided with information that complies with the standards provided by DCAS regarding employee rights and obligations contained within this Policy, and with information about the complaint, investigation and reasonable accommodation procedures. The agency head will also ensure that the Policy, standards, and procedures are posted at each site where the agency conducts business. Such posting may include postings on electronic bulletin boards and intranet sites. Each agency head will ensure that each of the agency's employees is accountable for his or her compliance with EEO-related policies, and receives training in EEO laws.

Agency heads should ensure that information regarding employee rights and obligations, and the complaint, investigation, and reasonable accommodation procedures are available in appropriate alternative formats to employees and job applicants with disabilities.

#### C. EEO Officers

The agency's EEO Officer has primary responsibility for assisting the agency head in implementing the Policy, standards, and procedures. Specifically, the agency's EEO Officer must be knowledgeable regarding EEO laws, the requirements of the Policy, standards, and procedures, and how to prevent, investigate, and resolve discrimination complaints. The EEO Officer and/or Disability Rights Coordinator will also receive requests for accommodations, and recommend appropriate action to the agency head regarding EEO-related issues. The EEO Officer will also provide guidance to the agency head in submitting the agency's annual Diversity and EEO Plan and in preparing and reviewing quarterly reports. The EEO Officer should work closely and cooperatively with the agency's General Counsel and the DCAS Office of Citywide Diversity and EEO, and provide guidance and assistance to agency managers, supervisors, and human resource professionals in addressing issues relating to equal employment opportunity.

The EEO Officer will also: 1) set training objectives that ensure that all agency employees receive diversity and inclusion and EEO training; 2) supervise the EEO-related activities of EEO counselors and/or investigators; 3) ensure that the Policy, standards, and procedures are posted at each site where the agency conducts business; and 4) ensure that the Policy, standards, and procedures are available in alternative formats (i.e., large print, audio tape, and/or Braille). Each agency's EEO Officer shall make a copy of these standards and procedures, and any subsequent revisions and supplemental materials, available upon request by an employee or applicant.

#### D. Agency General Counsels

Agency General Counsels should: 1) assist the agency head in identifying and determining appropriate responses to EEO issues; 2) work cooperatively and closely with the EEO Officer in the implementation of the Policy, standards, and procedures; 3) inform the EEO Officer when external complaints or litigation involving EEO matters are brought against the agency; 4) be available to consult on internal EEO investigations; and 5) be responsible for the investigation of, and response to, external EEO complaints.

#### E. <u>Managers and Supervisors</u>

Managers and supervisors will make every effort to maintain a work environment that fosters sensitivity and respect for the diversity of all individuals. Specifically, each agency manager or supervisor shall: 1) be accountable to the agency head for effectively implementing EEO-related policies; 2) perform managerial or

supervisory responsibilities in a non-discriminatory manner; 3) receive training in EEO laws; 4) cooperate with the EEO Officer in the implementation of the Policy, standards, and procedures (including training, complaint resolutions, processing, recording, and reporting reasonable accommodation requests, EEO-related recruitment, and selection standards; and modifying agency procedures to ensure equal employment opportunity for applicants and employees); 5) promptly consult with the agency's EEO Officer if he or she observes, learns about, or suspects that a violation of this Policy has occurred; 6) where appropriate, encourage subordinates to consult with an EEO office; 7) allow employees to meet with EEO representatives at the earliest practical time consistent with the operational needs of his or her unit; and 8) maintain confidentiality with respect to EEO-related matters.

#### F. <u>Personnel Officers</u>

Personnel Officers have primary responsibility for assisting the agency head in implementing the City's personnel policies and shall be knowledgeable regarding the interplay of EEO-related laws and other work-related legal regulations including Family Medical Leave Act, New York State Civil Service Law, and Workers' Compensation Law. Personnel Officers should cooperate with EEO Officers in the implementation of the Policy, standards, and procedures including training objectives, complaint resolutions, and modifying agency procedures to ensure equal employment opportunity for applicants and employees.

Personnel Officers will also: 1) ensure that employees know the identity of the agency Career Counselor and ensure that all employees have access to information regarding job responsibilities, performance evaluation standards, examinations, training opportunities and job postings; 2) ensure that all new employees are advised of the Policy, standards, and procedures, the employees' rights and responsibilities under such policies, and the discrimination complaint procedures; 3) inform the EEO Officer on a quarterly basis of the number of 55-a Program participants and efforts that the agency has made to employ, promote, or accommodate qualified individuals with disabilities; 4) involve the agency EEO Officer in the review of EEO-related decisions, actions, and practices; and 5) promptly consult with the agency's EEO Officer if he or she knows, has been informed of, or suspects that a violation of this Policy has occurred.

#### Appendix - 5

Campaign Finance Board

EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines, City of New York 2016

## EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines

City of New York 2016



**Department of Citywide Administrative Services** 

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### THE CITY OF NEW YORK EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMPLAINT PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES

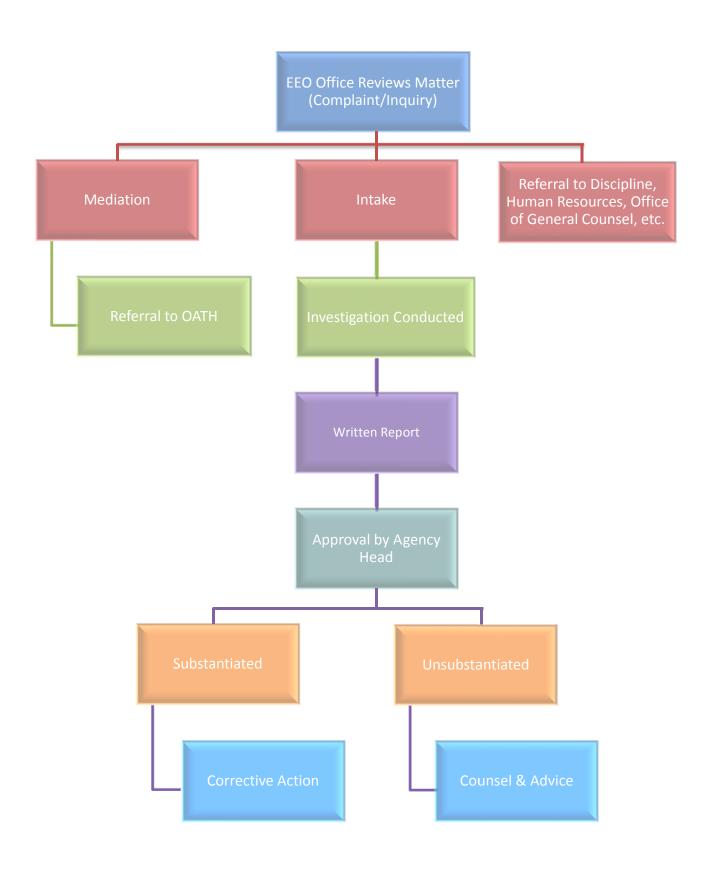
#### Overview

These Equal Employment Opportunity Complaint Procedural Guidelines (the "Guidelines") are designed to assist Equal Employment Opportunity ("EEO") Officers, Investigators and Counselors in handling EEO complaints and inquiries in a fair, consistent, and timely manner. A person who wishes to make an EEO complaint, or who inquiries about a possible EEO complaint, should be referred to the City's EEO Policy (the "Policy") and the "About EEO: What You May Not Know" Handbook (the "Handbook"). <sup>1</sup>

As provided in the Policy, the City prohibits discriminatory employment actions against, and treatment of, City employees and applicants for employment based on actual or perceived race, color, national origin, alienage or citizenship status, religion or creed, gender (including "gender identity" --which refers to a person's actual or perceived sex, and includes self-image, appearance, behavior or expression, whether or not different from that traditionally associated with the legal sex assigned to the person at birth), disability, age (18 and over), military status, prior record of arrest or conviction, marital status, partnership status, genetic information or predisposing genetic characteristic, sexual orientation, status as a victim or witness of domestic violence, sex offenses or stalking, and unemployment status. Harassment and/or retaliation against a person who opposes or complains about prohibited conduct or participates in any way in the complaint, investigation, or reasonable accommodation processes are also prohibited. The Policy also prohibits the denial of reasonable accommodations for disabilities; pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions; religious beliefs, observances, and practices; or for victims of domestic violence, sex offenses, or stalking that do not create an undue hardship. Persons who claim discrimination in violation of the Policy may file a complaint within one year of the alleged discriminatory incident, with the EEO Office at the City agency where the incident occurred ("internal complaint") or with a Civil Rights enforcement agency, subject to its filing requirements ("external complaint").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The EEO Policy is available at http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/html/about/eeopol.shtml. The EEO handbook is available at http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/html/about/eeo booklet.shtml.

#### The EEO Complaint Process at a Glance



#### THE INTAKE PHASE

The EEO complaint or inquiry process begins when a person (the "Complainant") contacts the EEO Office regarding an alleged discriminatory incident.

The person making the complaint may do so anonymously, if he or she so chooses. Anonymous complaints must be treated the same as identified complaints, to the extent possible.

A complaint may be filed by an employee a former employee, independent contractor, a consultant, a volunteer, an intern, a WEP worker, or an applicant for City employment.

A complaint may be filed on the Complainant's own behalf or on behalf of someone else.

Supervisors and managers are required under the Policy to timely notify their EEO Office of any alleged discriminatory conduct they observe or become aware of.

Upon receiving an EEO complaint or inquiry, the EEO Office must memorialize the complaint or inquiry and enter it into the complaint tracking system,<sup>2</sup> as well as schedule, by email or letter, an intake session with Complainant, if known, for purposes of assessing or confirming the following:

- ☑ Is the complaint timely?
  - o Determine when the alleged discriminatory conduct occurred. A complaint must be filed within one year of the date the alleged discriminatory conduct occurred.
  - While a Complainant may not be able to file a complaint and obtain specific relief sought if the complaint is untimely, the EEO Office may conduct an investigation and may make recommendations to address inappropriate conduct.
- ☑ Has Complainant previously filed a lawsuit or complaint with an enforcement agency regarding the same claims of discrimination? If so, the matter must be transferred to the agency's Office of General Counsel.
  - If an external complaint or lawsuit is filed subsequent to the filing of the internal complaint, the matter must also be transferred to the agency's Office of General Counsel. The EEO
     Office must notify Complainant (and Respondent<sup>3</sup>, if any) in writing of the transfer.
  - If the Complainant alleges retaliation after filing the external complaint, the retaliation complaint must also be transferred to the Office of General Counsel.
  - If a subsequent complaint involves allegations unrelated to the initial external complaint, the EEO Office may retain and investigate the subsequent complaint as a separate complaint.
     The EEO Office must consult with the Office of General Counsel in determining whether the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The complaint tracking system is available at https://mspwva-dcslnx01.csc.nycnet/Login.aspx.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Respondent is the person or entity alleged to have engaged in the discriminatory conduct.

subsequent complaint involves separate allegations.

- ☐ Has Complainant previously raised the same issues with others at the agency?
  - Did Complainant discuss the alleged discriminatory conduct with a supervisor/manager,
     Human Resources, or co-workers?
  - Has Complainant filed a grievance with his or her union regarding the same conduct, practice or policy?
- Does the complaint or inquiry raise one or more of the protected categories under the City's Policy, including when discrimination is based on perception or association (see the Handbook, pages 8-10, for definitions of the protected categories)?
  - If the complaint or inquiry does <u>not</u> raise an EEO basis, the EEO Office should make a referral, as appropriate.
- If the complaint or inquiry raises an EEO basis, what specific conduct, practice or policy is the person alleging violates the Policy? The issues raised could involve one or more of the following issues:
  - Harassment, including, but not limited to "the use of vulgar language, abusive acts or language, hostility, physical aggression, intimidation or unequal treatment" based on any of the protected categories (see the City's EEO Policy, page 3).
  - Adverse employment actions, such as negative performance evaluation or denial of promotion or benefits, allegedly based on one or more protected categories as shown by, for example, discriminatory comments or different treatment of other employees who are similarly situated.
  - Failure to reasonably accommodate disability, pregnancy, childbirth and related medical condition, religion/religious observance, victims of domestic violence, sex offenses or stalking.
  - Retaliation due to opposition or complaining about discrimination or participating in the complaint, investigation or reasonable accommodation process. Retaliatory conduct includes conduct reasonably likely to dissuade a person from engaging in protected activity.
  - o Policy alleged to have a discriminatory impact on a protected category that is not job-related or justified by business necessity.
- ✓ What is Complainant's status with the agency?
  - o Does Complainant work at the agency?
  - o What is Complainant's civil service status?
  - Is Complainant an employee of the agency or different agency or an independent contractor?
    - The EEO Office must contact the EEO Office of the employing agency and coordinate the investigation.
- Which person(s), if any, is alleged to have engaged in the discriminatory conduct (the "Respondent")?
  - Complaints against the EEO Officer and agency heads should be referred to the City's Law Department or Department of Citywide Administrative Services ("DCAS").
  - o Complaints by employees or others against a member of the public visiting the agency

- should be referred to the agency's EEO Officer.
- Complaints by the public against persons working at the agency should be handled by the agency's EEO Officer.
- o In the case of complaints against employees of other agencies, the EEO Office of each agency should conduct a joint inquiry or investigation of the complaint.
- ☑ Is there a specific document or rule that applies to the conduct or practice complained about? For example:
  - Personnel Services Bulletins (http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/html/employees/psbtoc.shtml)
  - Personnel Rules and Regulations of the City of New York
     (http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/html/employees/personnelrules\_regs.shtml)
  - Collective bargaining agreements (http://www1.nyc.gov/site/olr/labor/labor-recentagreements.page)
  - Title Specifications and Notices of Examinations (http://dcascitynet.dcas.nycnet/TitleSpecs/home.aspx)
  - o Agency Code of Conduct
- ☑ Do the allegations involve conduct which must be reported to or investigated by a different office or agency? For instance:
  - o Discipline (Advocate): violations of code of conduct.
    - The EEO Office may rely on fact-findings of Discipline or may conduct separate or additional investigation.
  - o Inspector General: fraud, corruption and unethical conduct.
  - o Police/Law Enforcement: criminal conduct.
    - The EEO Office may have to place an investigation or inquiry on hold if the matter is referred to law enforcement.
- ☑ Is it necessary that action be taken prior to the investigation of the complaint?
  - After consultation and approval from appropriate agency personnel, it may be necessary to provide interim relief to alleged victims of harassment.
  - o Interim relief may include, among other actions, temporary transfers and assignment or shift changes.
- ☑ Inform Complainant regarding confidentiality and anonymity, and the Policy regarding retaliation.
- Prior to meeting Complainant, inform Complainant of the right to be accompanied by a representative.
- Begin investigation immediately after determining that the allegations raised, if true, are sufficient to establish a case of discrimination under the Policy, that the complaint is timely, and that the EEO Office is responsible for investigating the complaint. Complete an investigation within 90 calendar days of the filing of the complaint.
  - Ensure a Complaint Form is completed, preferably by Complainant although it can be done by the EEO Office, but should be signed by Complainant.

#### **MEDIATION**

Mediation is a voluntary approach to dispute resolution in which the parties try to resolve the dispute themselves on mutually agreeable terms, with the help of a trained third party mediator. The EEO Officer may recommend mediation, or either party to the complaint may request mediation.

The EEO Office may recommend mediation at the inquiry/intake stage and/or the parties may subsequently request mediation during the investigation, subject to the approval of the EEO Officer. Requests for mediation must be made in writing.

Mediation may be conducted by a trained third party mediator. The Center for Creative Conflict Resolution, which is part of the Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings ("OATH"), conducts mediation free of cost to City agencies and employees. More information about OATH is available at <a href="http://www.nyc.gov/html/oath/html/about/the-center.shtml">http://www.nyc.gov/html/oath/html/about/the-center.shtml</a>.

Mediation is most appropriate for complaints involving interpersonal conflict, and should not be considered in certain cases, such as when the complaint includes allegations of sexual harassment or criminal conduct.

Mediation efforts must not exceed 45 days from the start of mediation. The EEO Office may extend the mediation for good cause.

While mediation continues, the 90-day period for completion of the investigation is suspended.

If the parties agree to a resolution during mediation, a resolution agreement will be drafted and provided to the parties and the referring EEO Officer. The resolution agreement will resolve the pending EEO complaint. Any resolution agreement requiring agency action or approval will only become effective subject to agency approval. If a resolution is not reached, the matter is returned to the EEO Officer and the 90-day investigative period resumes. The EEO Officer may also determine if an agreement has been violated and if so, whether to refer it for further mediation or declare the agreement void.

A party may withdraw from mediation at any time. The EEO Office may also terminate the mediation process if it deems that the effort has been unproductive. The EEO Office must inform all parties to the complaint, in writing, of the termination of mediation. The notice must also inform the parties that the EEO Office will resume its investigation of the complaint.

#### INVESTIGATION

- The purpose of the investigation is to determine whether there are facts supporting the allegations of discrimination.
- The complaint investigation should begin immediately after a determination that the allegations raised,
  if true, are sufficient to establish discrimination under the Policy, that the complaint is timely, and that
  the EEO Office is responsible for investigating the complaint.
- The complaint investigation should be completed and the Complainant should be notified of the outcome within **90** calendar days of the filing of a complaint.
  - The EEO Office should ensure that a Complaint Form is completed, preferably by Complainant although it can be done by the EEO Office, but should be signed by Complainant, and logged into the complaint tracking system.
  - o Complainants should be provided the following upon filing a complaint:
    - a copy of the written complaint
    - acknowledgement of receipt of the complaint
    - a copy of or links to the City' EEO Policy and Handbook
- Meet with Complainant to supplement or clarify information provided during the intake phase.
  - o Confirm if there any persons who witnessed the alleged discriminatory conduct.
  - Does the Complainant have or know of any documents, such as emails or photos, containing information about the alleged conduct?
- Conduct a thorough investigation that provides answers as to:
  - who was involved in the alleged discriminatory conduct;
  - what occurred during the alleged conduct;
  - when and where the alleged conduct took place;
  - the identity of all witnesses to the alleged conduct, anyone with whom the alleged conduct has been discussed, or anyone who may have identified as having been subject to similar conduct as that alleged or who has information concerning any aspect of the alleged conduct;
  - whether this was an isolated conduct or part of a pattern;
  - what impact, if any, the alleged conduct has had on the Complainant and/or the work environment;
- Determine whether the action alleged to be discriminatory was based on a legitimate, nondiscriminatory reason.
- Obtain and review any available and relevant notes, recordings, photographs, physical evidence, or other documentation.

#### **Conducting Interviews**

- Explain objective of the interview.
- Explain City's EEO Policy on retaliation.
- Ask open-ended interview questions in a non-judgmental manner.
- Determine what witnesses know based on personal knowledge versus what they have heard.
- During each interview, take thorough notes, as close to verbatim as possible. Notes should reflect the content of the interview, both the questions and answers, as completely as possible.

#### **Notice to Respondent of the Complaint**

- The EEO Office must serve Respondent with a notice of complaint along with a redacted copy of the complaint or a summary of the complaint and allegations after interviewing the Complainant. The following information must be redacted: the Complainant's home address and telephone number, and the name(s), title(s), and division(s) of witnesses.
- Schedule a meeting with Respondent, ensuring that Respondent is informed of the right to be accompanied by a representative.
- Remind Respondent of the City's EEO Policy against unlawful discrimination and retaliation.
- Inform Respondent of the right to respond in writing to the complaint, and that the response should be submitted as soon as possible.
- Give Respondent an opportunity to offer his/her version of events and any other relevant information, including any witnesses who are likely to have relevant information. The EEO Office should interview witnesses identified by Respondent.

#### **Amending the Complaint**

The complaint may be amended in writing, for any reason, prior to conclusion of the investigation and notice of outcome to the parties. For purposes of the one-year filing period, amendments to the original complaint will be deemed timely if the original complaint was itself timely. However:

- If a Complainant, after filing an initial complaint, seeks to file a subsequent complaint based on different facts than those alleged in the initial complaint, the subsequent complaint should treated as a separate complaint.
- If a Complainant, after filing an initial complaint, seeks to file a subsequent complaint alleging retaliation for making the initial complaint, the later complaint should be treated as a separate complaint.

• All initial, amended, and new complaints should be cross-referenced in the EEO Office's complaint file and the complaint tracking system.

#### Right to be Accompanied by a Representative

Any person who is interviewed during the course of an EEO investigation has the right to be accompanied by a representative of his or her choice. This includes individuals who make complaints, persons against whom complaints were made, or witnesses. It is preferable that the EEO Office receive advance notice that the person who is being interviewed will be bringing a representative. The representative may not respond on behalf of the party being interviewed or interfere with the interview.

### **Confidentiality and Record Keeping**

Complaints and complaint investigations should be accorded the strictest confidentiality possible. The EEO Office should make every effort to protect from disclosure the complaint allegations, the identity of parties to the complaint and any witnesses. Exceptions include disclosing to persons with a legitimate need to know certain information in order to respond to the complaint allegations or implement interim or corrective action. All persons with whom the EEO Office interacts concerning the complaint and its investigation should be asked to refrain from discussing the complaint beyond their interaction with the EEO Office.

All complaints and related documents, including any investigative notes, records, or copies, are strictly confidential and must be maintained by the EEO Office. The EEO Office may consult the agency's Office of General Counsel concerning a request to view or have copied, in whole or part, the EEO Office's files.

#### **Meeting with EEO Office and Obligation to Cooperate**

Anyone has the right to meet privately with the EEO Office during its office hours. An employee seeking to meet with the EEO Office at a reasonable time during that office's hours must secure prior permission for same from his/her appropriate supervisor. Such requests must be granted as a matter of right, but the supervisor may determine a reasonable time for the employee to visit the EEO Office. The employee is not required to disclose to the supervisor or anyone the reason for the employee's visit to the EEO Office. If appropriate or preferred by the employee, the meeting between the employee and the EEO Office may be scheduled before or after that office's hours, or during the employee's lunch break or personal time.

All employees are expected to cooperate with EEO investigations. Failure to cooperate in an investigation may result in disciplinary action.

## **False Allegations**

If an employee knowingly makes a false complaint or knowingly provides false information to the EEO Office in the course of a complaint or complaint investigation, such conduct may be grounds for disciplinary action. A complaint made in good faith, even if found to be unsubstantiated, will not be considered a false accusation.

## **Agency As Respondent**

<b>G</b> ente, and the second
Whenever an agency and/or subdivision of an agency are named as a Respondent in a complaint, the Agency Head should designate an appropriate person to respond to the allegations in the complaint on behalf of the agency or subdivision.

## PREPARING THE FINAL REPORT

The final investigative report **must be completed and the parties must be notified of the outcome within 90 calendar days** from the date the complaint was filed with the EEO Office, unless the time period is extended by the EEO Office for good cause, with written notice to the parties and memorialized in the investigative file and/or the complaint tracking system. The EEO Office must document the reason for the delay, and project a time frame for the completion of the report.

The EEO Officer should routinely consult the agency's Office of General Counsel on questions that arise while preparing the written report or at any phase of the investigation.

- After all the relevant facts have been gathered, the EEO Officer must prepare a confidential written report on the complaint investigation and must submit the report to the Agency Head for review.
- In preparing the written report, the EEO Officer should determine the credibility of the parties and witnesses, including their motives and biases. The EEO Officer should routinely consult the agency's Office of General Counsel on questions that arise while preparing the written report or at any phase of the investigation.
- If, based on the facts, the EEO Officer determines that it is more likely than not that the Respondent engaged in unlawful discriminatory conduct in violation of the City's EEO Policy, the EEO Officer must determine the most appropriate action to be taken in light of the facts and circumstances and make a written recommendation to the Agency Head.
- Corrective action may include measures necessary to address the impact that the violation of the City's EEO Policy had on the Complainant or within the agency. Disciplinary action must be taken in accordance with provisions of law, rules and regulations and any relevant collective bargaining agreement. Determining the appropriate disciplinary action is often a difficult and sensitive matter with potential legal consequences. Therefore, the agency's Office of General Counsel, Agency Advocate and/or Labor Relations Office must concur in any recommendation to pursue discipline before it can be adopted as part of a written report.
  - The written report should include a summary of the allegations and responses, a summary of the procedural history of the investigation, a statement of the relevant facts gathered during the investigation, a conclusion/determination and recommendation. Conclusions must be supported by facts uncovered during the investigation.
- The Agency Head must sign each written report and indicate that it has been reviewed and whether
  the determination and recommendation, if any, is adopted, rejected or modified. After review of
  the report by the Agency Head, the EEO Office should inform all parties in writing of the outcome of
  the investigation.

#### **Informing Parties of Outcome**

The decision after investigation should be communicated to the parties, in writing, in a discreet and confidential manner, indicating the conclusion reached, whether the misconduct alleged has been

substantiated, and the agency's opposition to that kind of activity.

## **APPENDICES**

The following pages contain templates in the form of sample documents and letters that were developed to promote consistency in the complaint and investigative processes. Although agencies are not mandated to use these specific templates, the information captured in these templates should be considered the **minimum** requirement.

Regarding the sample final investigative report included here, this format is strongly encouraged in the interest of consistency and clarity of reporting.

**All** EEO complaints are to be entered in the complaint tracking system.

- ☑ It is **recommended** that this be done immediately following the initial intake interview with the Complainant(s).
- ☑ It is **required** that this be done before the end of the quarter.

## **SAMPLE A – Intake Form**

Com	plaint #:					
Date	received:					
Origir	n (circle one):	Letter	Telephone	Office Visit	Email	
Rece	ived by (circle o	ne): EEO (	STAFF NAME	EEO STAFF NAME	EEO STAFF NAME	
1.	Contact Info	rmation				
	Name					
	Title		Emplo	oyee ID#		
	Work Unit		Locat	ion		
	Work Telepho	one #	Sh	nift		
	Home Addres			Zip		
	Home Phone	#				
	Cell Phone #		Ema	ail Address		
2.	Subject/Respondent Information					
	Name				_	
	Title		Emplo	yee ID#		
Work Unit		Locati	on	-		
		Shi	ft			
	Home Addres	SS			_	
	City		State	Zip	Home Phone #	
	Cell Phone #			ail Address		

	Complaint #:						
		Describe the nature o	of the comp	laint			
	Attach additional sheets as necessary						
	Supervisor Behavior	Employee Behavior		Employment Practice			
What	t resolution are you seeking?						
		Action(s) taken by	EEO Offic	<u>e</u>			
	Counsel and Advice						
	Mediation						
	Not an EEO matter, referred	l to appropriate departı	ment for ha	andling:			
	Date:						
	Department / Contac	t:					
	Inquiry/Investigation Comm	enced					

Complaint #: \_\_\_\_\_

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE FOR USE BY DCAS EEO OFFICE

### **SAMPLE B – Complaint Form**

### [Insert agency name and logo]

## **Complaint of Discrimination**

(Please print the following information)

Name	ERN	Division/Office/Agency
Civil Service Title	Office Title	Supervisor
What is the alleged b	asis of discrimination?	Please give the name, title and division of the person(s) you believe discriminated against
(Please check all that	t apply)	ou.
$\Box$ $Age$		
☐ Alienage/Citizen:	ship	
☐ Arrest/ Conviction	on record	When did the alleged discrimination occur? Date:/
☐ Color ☐ Disability		
•	g gender identity/Pregnancy	
☐ Genetic Predispo	osition	Where did the alleged incident occur?
☐ Marital Status		
<ul><li>☐ Military Status</li><li>☐ National Origin</li></ul>		
☐ Partnership State	us	
□ Race		
☐ Religion/Creed		Were there witnesses to the discrimination? YesNo
☐ Sexual Harassmo		
☐ Sexual Orientation ☐ Unemployment S		Did you report this incident to anyone? Yes No
	tic Violence, Sex Offense or Stalking	
☐ Retaliation for fi	ling a complaint or assisting tion of an EEO complaint	(Please provide the name(s) of witnesses on the Witness Information Form)
Have you filed a	complaint about the alleged dis	crimination with any of the following agencies?
	ity Commission on Human Righ	hts
	tate Division of Human Rights	
	s Equal Employment Opportun	ity Commission
	s Department of Labor	
□ United State	s Department of Justice	
(If so, please stat	te the date and the complaint nu	umber)
Complaint#		Date Filed:/

Please describe what happened to you on the following pages, what you believe is unlawful discrimination, and/or how other persons were treated differently. This statement may be amended to correct omissions. Please use extra pages if necessary.

Comi	olaint	of	Discr	imin	ation
	Jiaiii	OI.	DISCI		auon

Page 2

Description of Alleged Unlawful Discrimination
Please describe what happened to you which you believe is unlawful discrimination, and how other persons were treated differently. This statement may be amended to correct mistakes or omissions. (Please use extra pages if necessary)
I certify I have read the above charge and any attached pages that it is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, and that I have read the attached notices concerning my rights to file a complaint with federal, state and local civil rights enforcement agencies.
Date:/ Complainant's Signature

#### **NOTICE**

#### YOUR RIGHTS TO FILE A COMPLAINT WITH CIVIL RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

Any employee or applicant for employment who believes that they have experienced unlawful discrimination has a right to file a formal complaint with the federal, state or local agencies listed below. A person does not give up this right when they file a complaint with the DCAS EEO Officer, or any of the DCAS EEO Representatives. The following federal, state and local agencies enforce laws against discrimination:

#### NEW YORK CITY COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

40 Rector Street New York, NY 10006 (212) 306-7450 (212) 306-7686 (TTY)

Web site: www.nvc.gov/html/cchr/home/html

#### NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

One Fordham Plaza, 4th Floor Bronx, NY 10458 (718) 741-8400

or

163 West 125th Street, 4th Floor New York, NY 100270

(212) 961-8650

(212) 961-8999 (TTY)

or

20 Exchange Place, 2nd Floor New York, NY 10005

(212) 480-2522

or

55 Hanson Place, 3rd Floor

Brooklyn, NY 11217

(718) 722-2856

Web site: www.nysdhr.com

## UNITED STATES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

New York District Office 33 Whitehall Street, 5th Floor New York, NY 10004 (212) 336-3620; (212) 336-3622 (TTY)

Web site: www.eeoc.gov

In addition to filing with the aforementioned agencies, a person with a complaint alleging discrimination based on disability may file with:

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

Disability Rights Section New York Avenue Building 950 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W. Washington, D.C. 20530 (202) 307-0663 (voice and TDD)

Web site: <a href="https://www.usdoj.gov/crt/drs/drshome/htm">www.usdoj.gov/crt/drs/drshome/htm</a>

A person with a complaint alleging discrimination based on citizenship or immigration status may file with:

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

Office of Special Counsel for Immigration-Related Unfair Employment Practices New York Avenue Building 950 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W. Washington, D.C. 20530

Voice: (202) 616-5594: (202) 616-5525; 1-800-237-2515

Web site: www.usdoj.gov/crt/osc

A person who has been discriminated against by a recipient of financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor may file a complaint, either with the recipient or with the Civil Rights Center (CRC). Those who wish to file complaints with CRC should mail their complaints to:

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Director, Civil Rights Center Frances Perkins Building, Room N-4123 200 Constitution Avenue N.W. Washington, D.C. 20210 (202) 693-6502 (voice) (202) 693-6515 (TTY)

Web site: www.dol.gov/dol/oasam/crchome.htm

Please Note: There are statutory deadlines for filing complaints with each of these agencies. The deadline in some instances is as short as 180 days. If you wish to file a complaint with an external administrative agency, you should promptly contact any of these agencies directly or a private attorney for information about how to file a complaint, time limits, and how to preserve your rights.

Discrimination complaints filed with the DCAS EEO Office must be made within <u>One Year</u> of the incident that you are complaining about.

## **SAMPLE C – Witness Information Form**

[Insert agency name and logo]

# WITNESS INFORMATION FORM CONFIDENTIAL

Complaint #
Complainant's Name:
Please provide the name, address/location and telephone number of any witness to the alleged unlawful discrimination. If DCAS employs the person please provide their division and title, if known. If the person (s) is employed by another city agency please provide the name of the agency, if known.
Please complete a separate form for each witness
(Please Print)
Name:
Agency:
Division:
Civil Service or Office Title:
Address/Location:
Telephone :( )

## **SAMPLE D – EEO Complaint Activity Sheet**

Investigator:		Complaint #:	
DATE	NAME	NATURE OF CONTACT	
DATE	INAIVIE	NATURE OF CONTACT	

## SAMPLE E - CHECKLIST: TYPICAL QUESTIONS TO ASK A COMPLAINANT

•	What is the basis of your complaint?	
•	What is the specific behavior that you experienced?	-
•	Who was engaged in the behavior?	-
•	When did the incident(s) take place?	-
•	Was the behavior repeated or has it happened before?	-
•	How long has this been going on?	-
•	Where did the incident take place?	-
•	How, if at all, did you react?	-
•	Was your ability to work affected in any way?	-
•	How were you affected otherwise?	-
•	Do you know of anyone who witnessed this or similar incidents?	-
•	Do you know of other employees who have been subjected to the same treatment or same concern?	have the
•	Do you have any evidence regarding this matter? (Photos, notes, letters, personal emassocial media messages, voice mail messages, any objects of any kind, etc.)	- ails, texts
	o If Complainant (or witnesses) reference evidence that resides on Department complete Department's office of Information Technology should be contacted for collection evidence.	
•	What resolution are you seeking? In other words, what is the outcome that you expect to refiling this complaint?	esult from

## **SAMPLE F – Acknowledgment of Receipt of Policy**

l,	, employee ID number	,	acknowledge	that I received the
City of New York's Equa	l Opportunity Policy.			
I have reviewed the police to me during my counse	cy and understand its content. ling session.	I also acknowledg	e that it was re	viewed and explained
Signature of Employee		Date		
EEO Representative		Date		

## **SAMPLE G – Inquiry Letter to Complainant**

[Insert agency name and logo]	
Date	
Ms./Mr. FIRST NAME LAST NAME STREET ADDRESS BOROUGH, New York ######	
	Re: EEO Complaint #
Dear Ms:	
Thank you for contacting the EEO Office with your concerns. We complaint. The matter has been assigned to NAME and TITLE of shortly.	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
In the interim, please feel free to contact Ms (EEO Ir is any additional information you think may assist her. Thank you	
Sincerely,	
EEO OFFICER	

## **SAMPLE H – Notice of Discrimination Complaint**

Complainant	V.	Respondent	
			-
ate	C	Complainant's Name(s)	
nination against you on	the basis o	f	
t allegations. Any resp	oonse you v	wish to make must be receive	ved by the (agency's)
ou need to reschedule noice. Please notify th	e the meetii	ng. You have the right to b	be accompanied by a
•		• •	complaint process is
oon the investigation, it made to the agency h	is determin nead that a	ed that the City's EEO Policy opropriate corrective action	y has been violated, a be taken, which may
Policy is attached for y	our reference	ce. Please review this policy.	
or discrimination or cod	operating wi	th an investigation of a comp	plaint. Such retaliation
	Date		
	ate  nination against you on ing to the allegations at allegations. Any respecting onou need to reschedule noice. Please notify the entative.  gating this complaint reports to calendar days of the envestigation, a confider on the investigation, it made to the agency had all parties will be notify. All parties will be notify to calendar days of the envestigation of the City's Electron of the City's Elect	ate,,,,,,,	complainant's Name(s)  nination against you on the basis of  ing to the allegations contained in this complaint after receive at allegations. Any response you wish to make must be received. EEO Office on or before (14 calendar days from containing on at the EEO Office [Insert address ou need to reschedule the meeting. You have the right to be noice. Please notify the EEO Office in advance of the meeting entative.  It is adjusted to the agency of the date on which the complaint was filled.  Investigation, a confidential written report of the investigation with the investigation, it is determined that the City's EEO Policy made to the agency head that appropriate corrective action. All parties will be notified in writing of the outcome of the investigation of the City's EEO Policy to retaliate against or harass are for discrimination or cooperating with an investigation of a compose for discrimination regardless of the findings of the initial in the complaint was considered in the city's effect of the investigation of a compose for discrimination or cooperating with an investigation of the initial in the city's effect of the initial init

## **SAMPLE I – Request for Withdrawal of Complaint**

[Insert agency name and logo]	
RE: COMPLAINT #	
request withdrawal of my complaint of em	, Employee ID number hereby ployment discrimination filed with the EEO Office or withdrawal of this complaint is not the result of either coercion
or intimidation by any other individual. I understarmy complaint by the EEO Office of	nd that this withdrawal may NOT conclude the investigation of Agency.
Complainant's Signature	
	FFICE USE ONLY
ACCEPTED: YES NO  COMMENTS:	
EEO Office Representative Signature	Date

## **SAMPLE J – Administrative Closure Letter**

[Insert agency name and logo]	
Date	
M /M FIRST NAME LAST NAME	
Ms. / Mr. FIRST NAME LAST NAME STREET ADDRESS	
BOROUGH, New York ######	
	Re: EEO Complaint #
Dear Ms:	
Thank you for contacting the EEO Office with your concerns. Reinformation and list of witnesses to assist us in our inquiry/investiprovide us with that statement.	
Please forward the statement to us immediately. If we do not recover will administratively close your case. If and/or when you submit Thank you for your cooperation.	-
Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns that	t you may have at ### ###-###.
Sincerely,	
EEO Officer	

## SAMPLE K – Investigation Completed; Substantiated Letter to Complainant

Date	
Ms./Mr. FIRST NAME LAST NAME STREET ADDRESS BOROUGH, New York ######	Re: EEO Complaint #
	——————————————————————————————————————
Dear Ms:	
Please be advised that the EEO Office has concluded its investigation which you filed alleging discrimination on the basis of	·
Upon a review of all the pertinent facts presented in the complaint substantiated.	, this office finds that the allegations were
This case has been referred to our [State agency department/office the Commissioner deems appropriate.	e] which will implement disciplinary action as
If you should have any questions, I can be reached at ### ###-##	##.
*[Disciplinary Officer, Dept., Advocate, Labor Relations Department	nt or Inspector General]
Sincerely,	
EEO OFFICER	
c: Commissioner	

# SAMPLE L – Investigation Completed: Substantiated Letter to Respondent

Date	
Ms. / Mr. FIRST NAME LAST NAME STREET ADDRESS BOROUGH, New York ######	
	Re: EEO Complaint #
Dear Ms:	
Please be advised that the EEO Office has concluded its inwhich [Name of Complainant] filed alleging discrimination on twere named respondent.	•
Upon a review of all the pertinent facts presented in the compaubstantiated.	plaint, this office finds that the allegations were
The following corrective measures will be taken: [Please enter sentence or as a bulleted list.]	steps that will be taken here, either in a
Please note that it is a violation of the City's EEO Policy to retalic complaint of harassment or discrimination or cooperating with the	
If you should have any questions, I can be reached at ### ###-	####.
Sincerely,	
EEO OFFICER	
c: Commissioner	

## SAMPLE M – Investigation Completed; Unsubstantiated Letter to Complainant

Date
Ms./Mr. FIRST NAME LAST NAME
STREET ADDRESS
BOROUGH, New York #####Re: EEO Complaint #
Dear Ms:
I am writing to inform you that the EEO Office has concluded its review of the complaint you filed on We conducted a comprehensive investigation of the charges made in your complaint, including We have kept the investigation impartial and objective.
Based on our investigation, your charges of a violation of New York City's EEO Policy could not be substantiated. [State reason, if appropriate].
Thank you for bringing your concerns to our attention and for being patient while we addressed them. Please continue to report any conduct that you deem inconsistent with The City's policies. I want to assure you that [Agency Name] is committed to protecting you from any retaliation as a result of your complaint and our investigation. Please call me if you feel you are being subjected to retaliation in any form.
To protect the privacy of everyone involved in this investigation we have taken steps to handle this matter in confidence. We expect you to treat the information contained in this letter in the same manner.
Sincerely,
EEO OFFICER
c: Commissioner

## SAMPLE N – Investigation Completed;– Unsubstantiated Letter to Respondent

[Insert agency name and logo]

c: Commissioner

Date
Ms./Mr. FIRST NAME LAST NAME
STREET ADDRESS
BOROUGH, New York ######
Re: EEO Complaint #
Dear Ms:
Please be advised that the EEO Office has concluded its investigation of the above referenced complaint
which [Name of complainant] filed alleging discrimination on the basis of, in which you
were named respondent.
Upon a review of all the pertinent facts presented in the complaint, this office finds that the allegations were
unsubstantiated.
To protect the privacy of everyone involved in this investigation we have taken steps to handle this matter in confidence. We expect you to treat the information contained in this letter in the same manner.
Please note that it is a violation of the City's EEO Policy to retaliate against or harass any person for filing a
complaint of harassment or discrimination or cooperating with the investigation of a complaint.
If you should have any questions, I can be reached at ### ###-###.
Sincerely,
EEO OFFICER

## SAMPLE O – EEO Complaint Final Investigative Report CONFIDENTIAL

Date:	
To:	[Agency Head]
From:	[EEO Officer or Investigator]
Re:	[EEO Complaint Number]
Complainant:	
Respondent:	
The undersigned was designated referenced matter.	to conduct an investigation of alleged misconduct involving the above
Statement of Basis of Complain	nt:
This complaint alleges discrimina	tion in the form of
[ <u>Ide</u>	as a basis for this investigation was provided by <a href="https://ntify.person.or.persons.who.supplied">ntify.person.or.persons.who.supplied information.of.possible misconduct</a> ] and <a href="https://nd/or.awritten.statement.attached">nd/or.awritten.statement.attached</a> hereto as Appendix A].
- -	, and concluded on
Summary of History of Complain	
•	
All potential witnesses have been	interviewed and are listed as follows:
• Name:	Title (If NYC Employee)
• Name:	Title (If NYC Employee)
• Name:	Title (If NYC Employee)
• Name	Title (If NYC Employee)

•	Employee:interviewed.	was contacted on	, but declined to be
The d	ocuments that were review	ved are listed as follows:	
•			
•			
•			
	ollowing evidence has also nt, etc.:	been secured (any objects, images, printout of te	ext messages, social media
•			
•			
•			
	ngs of Fact		
[This any.]	section should contain stat	ements made by the complainant and witnesses.	Please cite attachments, if
•			
•			
•			
	stantiated by the investiga	tements made by the complainant and witnesses tor(s).]	
·			
•			
State	ment of Response:		
The R	espondent responded to the	he allegations by stating	

Opinions:
[This section should contain the opinions and observations of the EEO Investigator.]
Determination:
[This section should contain the EEO Investigator's determination as to whether or not the allegations were substantiated.]
Conclusion and Recommendations:
Based upon the conclusion of this investigation it is recommended that:
Date:
[Signature] EEO Officer
I have reviewed this report and the recommendation(s) made above.
The recommendations meet with my approval and will be adopted
The recommendations made above do NOT meet with my approval
Comments:
Date:
[Signature] Agency Head



Frederick P. Schaffer Chair

Gregory T. Camp Richard J. Davis Marianne Camille Spraggins Naomi B. Zauderer Members

> Amy M. Loprest Executive Director

July 30, 2019

## **BY MAIL AND EMAIL**

Charise L. Terry, Executive Director Menelik Allsop, EEO Program Analyst NYC Equal Employment Practices Commission 253 Broadway Suite 602 New York, NY 10007

Re:

Optional Response to Preliminary Evaluation of CFB Sexual Harassment Prevention and

Response Practices

Dear Executive Director Terry and Program Analyst Allsop:

Thank you to you and the other members of the Equal Employment Practices Commission (EEPC) for the thorough preliminary evaluation of the Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Practices for the period covering January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018 of the Campaign Finance Board (CFB), dated July 19, 2019. The CFB is pleased that after the EEPC's detailed review, the agency's sexual harassment prevention and response practices were found to require only minimal required corrective action.

The CFB took immediate steps to respond to the outstanding correction action<sup>1</sup> identified by the EEPC in the preliminary evaluation. Specifically, the CFB updated the "CFB Equal Employment Opportunity Policy" section of the CFB Employee Handbook to refer to the City of New York (City) 2018 EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines (City Guidelines) instead of providing separate, CFB-specific EEO procedural guidelines to employees. *See* Enclosure 1. The CFB also now includes the City Guidelines as part of the Employee Handbook. Additionally, the agency updated the CFB intranet to link to the revised EEO Policy section of the Employee Handbook and the City Guidelines where

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Corrective Action #1 states: "Distribute/Post a paper or electronic copy of the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, Standards and Procedures to Be Utilized by City Agencies – or an agency Policy that conforms to city, state and federal laws against sexual harassment – for use by managers, supervisors, and legal, human resources and EEO professionals. Include, or attach as addenda: uniform and responsive procedures for investigating discrimination/sexual harassment complaints, and current contact information for the agency's EEO professionals as well as federal, state and local agencies that enforce laws against discrimination/sexual harassment."

appropriate. See Enclosure 2. For any future EEO complaints, the CFB will follow the EEO complaint process as provided under the City Guidelines.

The CFB believes that the steps that have been taken since receiving the preliminary evaluation have corrected the outstanding area of non-compliance and looks forward to receiving the EEPC's final determination.

If any additional questions arise, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy M. Loprest

c: Ilacia Zuell, Manager, EEO Analysis and Audit Unit, EEPC
Danica S. You, Senior Counsel and EEO Officer, Campaign Finance Board

#### Enclosed:

- 1. CFB Employee Handbook, EEO Policy and Procedures Section (updated July 27, 2019)
- 2. CFB Intranet Human Resources Hub Printout (updated July 29, 2019)



Sasha Neha Ahuja

Chair

August 5, 2019

BY MAIL AND EMAIL

Angela Cabrera Malini Cadambi Daniel Elaine S. Reiss, Esq. Arva R. Rice

Commissioners

Charise L. Terry Executive Director

Judith Garcia Quiñonez, Esq. Executive Agency Counsel/ Director of Learning and

Development

Jennifer Shaw, Esq.
Executive Agency Counsel/
Director of Compliance

253 Broadway Suite 602 New York, NY 10007

212. 615. 8939 tel. 212. 676.2724 fax Amy M. Loprest Executive Director

Campaign Finance Board 100 Church Street, 12th Floor New York, NY 10007

Re: Resolution #2019AP/233-004-(2019)

Campaign Finance Board

Evaluation of Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Practices

Audit Period: January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018

Determination: FINAL

Dear Executive Director Loprest:

On behalf of the members of the Equal Employment Practices Commission (EEPC), thank you for the continued cooperation extended to our staff. This document serves as a follow-up evaluation and Final Determination to the following:

Preliminary Determination Issued on: July 19, 2019

Response Received: July 30, 2019

#### <u>Purpose</u>

Chapter 35, Sections 815(a)(15) and (19) of the New York City Charter (Charter) calls for agency heads to ensure and promote equal opportunity for all persons in appointment, payment of wages, development, and advancement, and to establish measures and programs to ensure a fair and effective affirmative employment plan to provide equal employment opportunity (EEO) for minority group members and women.

Charter Chapter 36, Sections 830(a) and 831(d)(2) and (5) authorize the EEPC to audit, review, evaluate, and monitor the employment practices, procedures, and programs of city agencies and other municipal entities, hereinafter "entities," and their efforts to ensure fair and effective EEO for women and minority employees and applicants. Charter Sections 831(d)(2) and 832(c) authorize the EEPC to make a determination that any plan, program, procedure, approach, measure, or standard does not provide equal employment opportunity, require appropriate corrective action, and



monitor the implementation of the corrective action prescribed. The attachment contains the EEPC's final determination regarding the audit, review, and evaluation of the Campaign Finance Board's Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Practices.

As the Campaign Finance Board (CFB) falls within the EEPC's purview under Charter Chapter 36, Section 831(a), the EEPC is authorized to review, evaluate, and monitor the coordination and implementation of its affirmative employment programs of EEO and related practices. As indicated in our Preliminary Determination, the EEPC has adopted uniform standards¹ to this end. The purpose of this Final Determination, as authorized by Charter Chapter 36, Section 832(c), is to determine the sufficiency of the Campaign Finance Board's actions taken or planned thus far to correct areas of non-compliance identified in the EEPC's Preliminary Determination. Further, Chapter 36, Section 832(c) requires that: (1) the EEPC assign a compliance-monitoring period of up to six (6) months to monitor efforts taken to eliminate areas of non-compliance, if any; and (2) the agency respond in thirty (30) days and submit a report each month during this period on the progress of efforts taken to correct outstanding areas of non-compliance.

#### **Next Steps**

The assigned compliance-monitoring period is: September 1, 2019 to February 29, 2020. Correcting all outstanding areas of non-compliance without delay is highly encouraged and will serve to shorten this period.

If corrective actions remain: Corrective actions will be listed under the Monitoring Required section of the attached Final Determination. The EEPC requires that the agency head submit a signed response to this Final Determination. The signed response should indicate what steps the Campaign Finance Board has taken, or will take, to correct outstanding areas of non-compliance during the designated compliance-monitoring period. The Campaign Finance Board will be monitored monthly until all outstanding areas of non-compliance have been sufficiently corrected. The Campaign Finance Board is required to submit documentation that supports the implementation of each corrective action via TeamCentral, the EEPC's Automated Compliance-Monitoring System. Instruction on how to access and navigate TeamCentral is attached.

**Final Memorandum:** Upon the Campaign Finance Board's implementation of the final corrective action, if any, the EEPC requires that the Campaign Finance Board submit a final memorandum, signed by the agency head, that recognizes the EEPC's audit and reiterates commitment to equal employment practices. **Upon receipt of this final memorandum, the EEPC will issue a Determination of Compliance.** 

If no corrective actions remain: In lieu of a response to this Final Determination, the Campaign Finance Board must submit a final memorandum (See Next Steps, Final Memorandum). Upon the EEPC's receipt of the final memorandum, the Campaign Finance Board will be exempt from the abovementioned compliance-monitoring period.

Page 2 of 5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The EEPC's uniform standards for auditing municipal entities and minimum standards for auditing community boards (collectively "Standards") are founded upon, and consistent with, federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and policies and procedures, including, but not limited to, the City of New York's *Equal Employment Opportunity Policy*, *Standards and Procedures to be Utilized by City Agencies 2014*; New York City Human Rights Law (NYC Administrative Code 8); New York State Human Rights Law (New York Executive Law, Article 15); New York State Civil Service Law §55-a; and the equal employment opportunity requirements of the New York City Charter.



#### Conclusion

This is the EEPC's Final Determination. Questions regarding next steps may be addressed to Jennifer Shaw, Esq., Executive Agency Counsel/Director of Compliance at <a href="mailto:jshaw@eepc.nyc.gov">jshaw@eepc.nyc.gov</a> or 212-615-8942.

Thank you and your staff for your continued cooperation.

Sincerely,

Executive Director

c: Danica You, Esq., Principal EEO Professional, Campaign Finance Board

Enclosed: TeamCentral Agency Manual



Agency: Campaign Finance Board

Compliance Period: September 1, 2019 to February 29, 2020

#### **FINAL DETERMINATION**

A response indicating progress of the Campaign Finance Board's efforts to correct outstanding areas of non-compliance, with supporting documentation, is due within 30 days.

The Equal Employment Practices Commission's findings and corrective actions required to remedy areas of non-compliance are based on the audit methodology, which included collection and analysis of the documents, records, and data provided; the EEPC's *Preliminary Interview Questionnaires* (PIQs) for EEO professionals and others involved in EEO program administration; and, if applicable, the *EEPC Employee Survey*; the *EEPC Supervisor/Manager Survey*; the *Annual EEO Plans* and *Quarterly EEO Reports* of the audited entity; and workforce data from the *Citywide Equal Employment Database System*. Additional research and follow-up discussions or interviews were conducted as appropriate.

After reviewing the optional response<sup>2</sup> (if applicable) to the EEPC's Preliminary Determination, our Final Determination is as follows:

#### **Monitoring Required**

The agency's implementation of the following required corrective actions will be monitored during the assigned compliance-monitoring period.

<u>Corrective Action#1:</u> Distribute/Post a paper or electronic copy of the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, Standards and Procedures to Be Utilized by City Agencies – or an agency Policy that conforms to city, state and federal laws against sexual harassment– for use by managers, supervisors, and legal, human resources and EEO professionals. Include, or attach as addenda: uniform and responsive procedures for investigating discrimination/sexual harassment complaints, and current contact information for the agency's EEO professionals as well as federal, state and local agencies that enforce laws against discrimination/sexual harassment.

Agency Response: "The CFB took immediate steps to respond to the outstanding correction action identified by the EEPC in the preliminary evaluation. Specifically, the CFB updated the "CFB Equal Employment Opportunity Policy" section of the CFB Employee Handbook to refer to the City of New York (City) 2018 EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines (City Guidelines) instead of providing separate, CFB-specific EEO procedural guidelines. See Enclosure 1. The CFB also now includes the City Guidelines as part of the Employee Handbook. Additionally, the agency updated the CFB intranet to link to the revised EEO Policy section of the Employee Handbook and the City Guidelines where appropriate. See Enclosure 2. For any future EEO complaints, the CFB will follow the EEO complaint process as provided under the City Guidelines."

<u>EEPC Response</u>: The EEPC recognizes the Campaign Finance Board's commitment to implementing corrective action #1. The Campaign Finance Board submitted the updated *CFB Equal Employment Opportunity Policy* section of the CFB Employee Handbook that referenced the 2018 City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines (City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines) by stating, "[t]he CFB adheres to the City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines, which is available on the agency Intranet (in the HR Hub section), and in this Handbook." The Campaign Finance Board submitted a screenshot demonstrating that the updated CFB Employee Handbook included a link to the City's EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines. The Campaign Finance Board also provided a screenshot that demonstrated the updated CFB Employee

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Excerpts are italicized.



Handbook was posted on the CFB's intranet. The agency will be monitored to confirm that the updated CFB Employee Handbook was distributed to all employees and/or that employees were notified that the updated CFB Employee Handbook was posted to the CFB's intranet.

<u>FINAL ACTION</u>: Upon the EEPC's determination that the entity does not require further review or monitoring: Distribute a memorandum signed by the agency head that re-emphasizes the commitment of agency administrators to the EEO program, including the prevention of sexual harassment, and informs employees of any changes to the agency's employment practices as a result of the EEPC's audit/monitoring. This final action is required to conclude the audit and monitoring process.

The EEPC thanks you and your staff for your continued cooperation.



## RESOLUTION NO. 2019AP/233-004-(2019) Campaign Finance Board Executive Director Amy M. Loprest Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Practices **DETERMINATION: FINAL**

#### SYNOPSIS

Corrective Action(s):

Total: 1

Period Audit Covered:

January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018

Preliminary Determination Issued:

July 19, 2019

Response Received

July 30, 2019

Final Determination Issued: August 5, 2019

Response Due

September 4, 2019

Compliance-Monitoring: Required

September 1, 2019 to February 29, 2020

Whereas, pursuant to Chapter 36, Sections 830(a) and 831(d)(2) and (5) of the New York City Charter (Charter), the Equal Employment Practices Commission (EEPC) is authorized to audit, review, evaluate, and monitor the employment procedures, practices and programs of city agencies and other municipal entities (hereinafter "entities") and their efforts to ensure fair and effective equal employment opportunity (EEO) for minority group members and women who are employed or seek employment, and to recommend practices, procedures, approaches, measures, standards, and programs to be utilized by such entities in these efforts; and

Whereas, pursuant to Charter Chapter 36, Sections 830(a) and 831(d)(2) and (5), the EEPC has adopted uniform standards for auditing agencies and municipal entities, and minimum standards for auditing community boards, to review, evaluate, and monitor entities' practices, procedures, approaches, measures, standards, and programs for compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and policies and procedures to increase equal opportunity for women, minorities, and other employees and job applicants identified for protection from discrimination; and

Whereas, in accordance with Charter Chapter 36, Section 832(c), the EEPC may make a determination pursuant to Charter Section 831(d) whether any plan, program, procedure, approach, measure, or standard adopted or utilized by any municipal entity does not provide equal employment opportunity, and the EEPC's determinations of compliance or non-compliance and prescribed corrective action are required by, or consistent with federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and policies and procedures to increase equality of opportunity for women, minorities, and other employees and job applicants identified for protection from discrimination; and

Whereas, the EEPC conducted an audit, review, and evaluation of the Campaign Finance Board's Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Practices; and

Whereas, pursuant to the audit, review, and evaluation of the Campaign Finance Board's Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Practices, the EEPC issued a Preliminary Determination, dated July 19, 2019, setting forth findings and the following corrective actions required to remedy areas of non-compliance:

1. Distribute/Post a paper or electronic copy of the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, Standards and Procedures to Be Utilized by City Agencies – or an agency Policy that conforms to city, state and federal laws against sexual harassment– for use by managers, supervisors, and legal, human resources and EEO professionals. Include, or attach as addenda: uniform and responsive procedures for investigating discrimination/sexual harassment complaints, and current contact information for the agency's EEO professionals as well as federal, state and local agencies that enforce laws against discrimination/sexual harassment.

Whereas, within a two-week deadline following the EEPC's Preliminary Determination, the entity submitted a preliminary response; and

Whereas, in accordance with Charter Chapter 36, Section 832(c), after consideration, the EEPC issued a Final Determination on August 5, 2019, which indicated that the following areas required corrective action: no. 1; and

Whereas, in accordance with Charter Chapter 36, Section 832(c), in the Final Determination, the EEPC assigned a monitoring period from September 1, 2019 to February 29, 2020, to determine whether the entity eliminated areas of non-compliance, if any; and

Whereas, in accordance with Charter Chapter 36, Section 832(c) the entity was required to respond in 30 days, and make monthly reports thereafter for a period not to exceed six months, on the progress of its efforts to correct outstanding areas of non-compliance; and

Whereas, in accordance with Charter Chapter 36, Section 832(c), on August 5, 2019, the entity was required to issue a response to the EEPC's Final Determination; Now Therefore,

Be It Resolved, that pursuant to Charter Chapter 35, Sections 815(a)(15) and (19), which requires agency heads to ensure and promote equal opportunity for all persons in appointment, payment of wages, development, and advancement, and to establish measures and programs to ensure a fair and effective affirmative employment plan to provide equal employment opportunity for minority group members and women, the EEPC approves the issuance of this Final Determination to Executive Director Amy M. Loprest to assign compliance-monitoring.

Approved unanimously on September 12, 2019.

Angela Cabrera

Commissione

Arva R. Rice

Commissioner

Malini Cadambi Daniel

Commissioner

Elaine S. Reiss, Esq.

Commissioner

Sasha Neha Ahuja

Chair



Frederick P. Schaffer

Gregory T. Camp Richard J. Davis Marianne Camille Spraggins Naomi B. Zauderer Members

> Amy M. Loprest Executive Director

August 21, 2019

#### **BY MAIL AND EMAIL**

Charise L. Terry, Executive Director Menelik Allsop, EEO Program Analyst NYC Equal Employment Practices Commission 253 Broadway Suite 602 New York, NY 10007

Re: Campaign Finance Board Response to NYC Equal Employment Practices Commission Final Determination Letter (Resolution #2019AP/233-004 (2019))

Dear Executive Director Terry and Program Analyst Allsop:

Thank you to you and the other members of the Equal Employment Practices Commission (EEPC) for the final determination letter regarding the Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Practices of the Campaign Finance Board (CFB) for the period covering January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018, dated August 5, 2019.

In the Final Determination Letter, the EEPC requested that the CFB "confirm that the updated CFB Employee Handbook was distributed to all employees and/or that employees were notified that the updated CFB Employee Handbook was posted to the CFB's intranet." The CFB's EEO Officer, Danica You, notified all CFB staff that the updated Employee Handbook was available on the CFB's intranet via email on August 16, 2019. *See* Enclosure 1.

The CFB believes that this action satisfies the EEPC's request and looks forward to receiving the EEPC's determination that the CFB does not require review or monitoring.

If any additional questions arise, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy M. Loprest

c: Ilacia Zuell, Manager, EEO Analysis and Audit Unit, EEPC
Danica S. You, Senior Counsel and EEO Officer, Campaign Finance Board

## Enclosed:

1. Email to CFB Staff dated August 16, 2019



## Memo

TO: All Employees

FROM: Equal Employment Practices Commission

**DATE:** 8/22/2019

**RE:** Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Practices Audit

Campaign Finance Board

The New York City Charter requires the Equal Employment Practices Commission (EEPC) to conduct an audit once every four years to ensure each City agency or municipal entity (collectively "agency") complies with federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and policies and procedures that increase equal opportunity for employees and applicants.

The EEPC recently concluded an audit and evaluation of the Campaign Finance Board's practices and procedures for compliance with city, state, and federal equal employment opportunity laws and regulations, and identified enhancement by means of the following:

• Corrective Action #1: Distribute/Post a paper or electronic copy of the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, Standards and Procedures to Be Utilized by City Agencies -- or an agency Policy that conforms to city, state and federal laws against sexual harassment-- for use by managers, supervisors, and legal, human resources and EEO professionals. Include, or attach as addenda: uniform and responsive procedures for investigating discrimination/sexual harassment complaints, and current contact information for the agency's EEO professionals as well as federal, state and local agencies that enforce laws against discrimination/sexual harassment.

Through successful completion of the EEPC's audit, evaluation, and monitoring processes and the aforementioned enhancements Executive Director Loprest reaffirms the commitment to ensuring that the Campaign Finance Board's employment practices encourage and maintain a workplace free from unlawful discrimination and sexual harassment, and that all employees are aware of their rights and obligations under the agency's equal employment opportunity policies.



## RESOLUTION NO. 2019AP/233-004-(2019)C35

Campaign Finance Board Executive Director Amy M. Loprest Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Practices DETERMINATION: COMPLIANCE

#### SYNOPSIS

Corrective Action(s)

Total: 1

Period Audit Covered

January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018

**Preliminary Determination** 

Issued

July 19, 2019

Response Received

July 30, 2019

Final Determination Issued

August 5, 2019

Response Received

August 21, 2019

Compliance-Monitoring Required

September 1, 2019 to February 29, 2020

Whereas, pursuant to Chapter 36, Sections 830(a) and 831(d)(2) and (5) of the New York City Charter (Charter), the Equal Employment Practices Commission (EEPC) is authorized to audit, review, evaluate, and monitor the employment procedures, practices and programs of city agencies and other municipal entities (hereinafter "entities") and their efforts to ensure fair and effective equal employment opportunity (EEO) for minority group members and women who are employed or seek employment, and to recommend practices, procedures, approaches, measures, standards, and programs to be utilized by such entities in these efforts; and

Whereas, pursuant to Charter Chapter 36, Sections 830(a) and 831(d)(2) and (5), the EEPC has adopted uniform standards for auditing agencies and municipal entities, and minimum standards for auditing community boards, to review, evaluate, and monitor entities' practices, procedures, approaches, measures, standards, and programs for compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and policies and procedures to increase equal opportunity for women, minorities, and other employees and job applicants identified for protection from discrimination; and

Whereas, in accordance with Charter Chapter 36, Section 832(c), the EEPC may make a determination pursuant to Charter Section 831(d) whether any plan, program, procedure, approach, measure, or standard adopted or utilized by any municipal entity does not provide equal employment opportunity, and the EEPC's determinations of compliance or non-compliance and prescribed corrective action are required by, or consistent with federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and policies and procedures to increase equality of opportunity for women, minorities, and other employees and job applicants identified for protection from discrimination; and

Whereas, the EEPC conducted an audit, review, and evaluation of the Campaign Finance Board's Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Practices; and

Whereas, pursuant to the audit, review, and evaluation of the Campaign Finance Board's Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Practices, the EEPC issued a Preliminary Determination, dated July 19, 2019, setting forth findings and the following corrective actions required to remedy areas of noncompliance:

1. Distribute/Post a paper or electronic copy of the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, Standards and Procedures to Be Utilized by City Agencies - or an agency Policy that conforms to city, state and federal laws against sexual harassment- for use by managers, supervisors, and legal, human resources and EEO professionals. Include, or attach as addenda: uniform and responsive procedures for investigating discrimination/sexual harassment complaints, and current contact information for the agency's EEO professionals as well as federal, state and local agencies that enforce laws against discrimination/sexual harassment.

Whereas, within a two-week deadline following the EEPC's Preliminary Determination, the entity submitted a preliminary response; and

Whereas, in accordance with Charter Chapter 36, Section 832(c), after consideration, the EEPC issued a Final Determination on August 5, 2019, which indicated that the following areas required corrective action: no(s). 1; and

Whereas, in accordance with Charter Chapter 36, Section 832(c), in the Final Determination, the EEPC assigned a monitoring period from September 1, 2019 to February 29, 2020, to determine whether the entity eliminated areas of non-compliance, if any; and

Whereas, in accordance with Charter Chapter 36, Section 832(c) the entity was required to respond in 30 days, and make monthly reports thereafter for a period not to exceed six months, on the progress of its efforts to correct outstanding areas of non-compliance; and

Whereas, in accordance with Charter Chapter 36, Section 832(c), on August 21, 2019, the entity issued a response to the EEPC's Final Determination; and

Whereas, in accordance with Charter Chapter 36, Section 832(c), the Campaign Finance Board was monitored until August 22, 2019; and

Whereas, pursuant to Charter Chapter 35, Sections 815(a)(15) and (19), which requires agency heads to ensure and promote equal opportunity for all persons in appointment, payment of wages, development, and advancement, and to establish measures and programs to ensure a fair and effective affirmative employment plan to provide equal employment opportunity for minority group members and women, the Executive Director submitted a copy of a memorandum to staff dated August 22, 2019, which recognized the EEPC's audit and reiterated commitment to the Campaign Finance Board's equal employment practices; Now Therefore,

**Be It Resolved**, that the Campaign Finance Board has satisfied the equal employment standards set by the EEPC pursuant to its authority under New York City Charter Chapters 35 and 36; and

**Be It Resolved**, that the EEPC's Board of Commissioners approves the issuance of this Determination of Compliance to Executive Director Amy M. Loprest of the Campaign Finance Board.

Approved unanimously on September 12, 2019.

Angela Cabrera Commissioner

Arva R. Rice Commissioner Malini Cadambi Daniel

Commissioner

Elaine S. Reiss, Esq. Commissioner

Sasha Neha Ahuja

Chair



Sasha Neha Ahuja Chair

Angela Cabrera Malini Cadambi Daniel Elaine S. Reiss, Esq. Arva R. Rice Commissioners

Charise L. Terry, PHR Executive Director

Judith Garcia Quiñonez, Esq. Executive Agency Counsel/ Director of Learning and Development

Jennifer Shaw, Esq. Executive Agency Counsel/ Director of Compliance

253 Broadway Suite 602 New York, NY 10007

212. 615. 8939 tel. 212. 676. 2724 fax

#### BY MAIL AND EMAIL

September 12, 2019

Amy M. Loprest Executive Director Campaign Finance Board 31 Chambers Street New York, NY 10007

Re:

Resolution #2019AP/233-004-(2019)C35

**DETERMINATION: Compliance** 

Dear Executive Director Loprest:

On behalf of the members of the Equal Employment Practices Commission (EEPC), I write to inform you that pursuant to New York City Charter Chapter 35, Sections 815(a)(15) and (19), which requires agency heads to ensure and promote equal opportunity for all persons in appointment, payment of wages, development, and advancement, and to establish measures and programs to ensure a fair and effective affirmative employment plan to provide equal employment opportunity (EEO) for minority group members and women, the EEPC's Board of Commissioners has approved the attached Determination.

Thank you and principal EEO Professional Danica You for the cooperation extended to the EEPC during the course of our review, evaluation, and monitoring of your agency's employment and EEO-related practices.

Sincerely,

Elaine S. Reiss, Esq.

Commissioner

C: Danica You, Esq., Principal EEO Professional, CFB

## This

# Determination of Compliance

is hereby issued to the

# Campaign Finance Board

for successful implementation of 1 of 1 required corrective action(s), thereby achieving compliance with the Equal Employment Practices Commission's Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Practices from January 1, 2017 to this date.

on this 17th day of September in the year 2019,

Elaine S. Reiss, Esq., Commissioner

Charise L. Terry, Executive Director

In care of Executive Director Amy M. Loprest and Principal EEO Professional Danica You